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ARAB TIMES

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NO 7285 MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1988 ZI AL QADAH 13, 1408 AH 16 PAGES 150 FILS

Kuwait, US sign accord to prevent hijacking

KUWAIT and the United States have signed an agreement on prevention of hijacking of planes and assisting each other in case such an incident occurs.

The official gazette Al Kuwait Al Youm yesterday published the provisions of the agreement, which was signed in Kuwait last week.

Assistance

According to the agreement, the US and Kuwait would provide necessary assistance to each other to prevent acts of "unlawful seizure of aircraft and other unlawful acts against the safety of passengers, crew, aircraft, airports and air navigation facilities."

The agreement also states that when a hijacking occurs, the two countries would "assist each other by facilitating communications and other appropriate measures intended to terminate rapidly and safely such incident of threat."

Each state will also give positive consideration to any request from the other state for special security measures to meet a particular threat.

Kuwait had been the target of several hijackings in the past few years. The last incident occurred in April this year when seven men commandeered a Boeing 747 jumbo jet while en route from Bangkok to Kuwait.

The signing of this agreement with the US is a clear indication of Kuwait's desire to deal firmly with terrorists and protect its citizens.

Kidnapping

COLOMBO, June 26, (KUNA): In a daring kidnapping incident carried out by some unidentified persons, Dr Ralph Bultjens (48) was kidnapped today in Colombo, Sri Lanka, near residence, police said.

INSIDE

International	2.3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7.8
Pictures	9
Business	10.11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13.14
Sports	15.16

اخبار و صفحات

- گیس چورو کی جانبداری
- ضبط کر لی جانے کی خیاں
- کویت مصر سے ایلو
- خریدے گا
- قحط آب زیادہ دور نہیں
- صدام
- کویت کے بجٹ کی منظوری
- ضیاء اب انتخابات سے
- نہیں بچ سکتے بنظر
- عالمی صورتحال پر تبصرہ اور
- پوشیدہ

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE remains below normal with moderate to fresh north-westerly wind, causing rising dust.

State of sea: rough

High water: 10.00 am, 9.00 pm

Low water: 3.00 am, 5.00 pm

Sunrise: 4.51 am

Sunset: 6.51 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 38°C (100°F) Ahmedi: 36°C (97°F) Falaika: 35°C (95°F)

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 26°C (79°F) Ahmedi: 29°C (84°F) Falaika: 30°C (86°F)

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 40°C (104°F) Ahmedi: 38°C (100°F) Falaika: 37°C (99°F)

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 22 per cent Ahmedi: 34 per cent Falaika: 38 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 33 per cent Ahmedi: 33 per cent Falaika: 37 per cent

Expenditure KD3.19 billion: revenue KD2.05 billion

Kuwait unveils a deficit budget

KUWAIT has slightly increased spending in its 1988-89 budget unveiled yesterday, apparently to keep a fragile economic recovery on keel, bankers said.

Finance Minister Jassim Mohammed Al Khorafi told reporters after a cabinet meeting, which approved the budget, spending would rise 1.2 per cent in the fiscal year starting on July 1 to KD 3.19 billion (\$1.6 billion).

Bankers said that would roughly keep pace with inflation, leaving real spending at about current levels.

Growing

Kuwait has been slowly emerging from a recession caused by falling oil revenues, the nearby Iran-Iraq war and the 1982 crash of its Souk Al Manakh stock market.

The economy expanded in 1987 for the first time since 1984, with gross domestic product growing by about five per cent.

The new budget projects



Khorafi

revenue at KD 2.05 billion (\$7.5 billion), leaving a deficit of KD 1.35 billion (\$4.9 billion), including a KD 205.4 million (\$750 million) contribution to the country's special reserve fund. Kuwait puts aside 10 per cent

of revenue every year for its reserve fund for future generations, which it invests in high-quality foreign assets including equity.

If the contribution for the future generations fund is excluded, the actual deficit in the new budget drops to KD 1.14 billion (\$4 billion).

The fund, estimated to be worth some \$55 billion a year ago, cannot be touched until the next century.

Ziad Taky, chief economist at the National Bank of Kuwait (NBK), said the budget contained no surprises.

Increase

"It is in line with what the government has been doing for the last three years, keeping expenditure at around KD 3.2 billion, which is what is needed to keep economic activity at a sustainable level," he said.

Khorafi declined to give projections of investment income, which in 1985-86 exceeded oil revenue. Before last

October's world stock market crash, NBK projected investment income in 1987-88 at around \$4.2 billion.

The budget projects a four per cent rise in 1988-89 oil revenue to KD 1.79 billion (\$6.5 billion). Bankers said this assumed an increase in either oil price or production levels. Non-oil revenues were estimated at KD 265 million, an increase of KD 12 million over last year's budget. Khorafi said the 1988-89 deficit would be financed by drawing down reserves, which bankers put at more than \$80 billion.

He made no mention of a public borrowing scheme launched last November to issue treasury bills and bonds, of which some KD 1.37 billion (\$5 billion) are now outstanding.

He added, salaries for the public sector will amount to KD 900 million, an increase by nearly KD 48 million over last year.

Various expenses and payments amount to KD 1,216 billion, KD 18 million less than the previous year.

Amir congratulates Saddam

HH the Amir yesterday congratulated President Saddam Hussein on Iraq's victory against Iran in the Majnoon islands.

The Kuwaiti cabinet also expressed satisfaction over the liberation of the islands. The cabinet hoped that Iran would respond to the repeated peace calls and end the war to restore stability and security to the region.

Arafat did not read Abu Sharif's article

THE information adviser to the PLO chairman Bassam Abu Sharif said yesterday in Kuwait that PLO chairman Yasser Arafat had not read his article published in an American newspaper last week on the PLO's readiness to negotiate with the Israelis within the framework of an international conference.

In an interview with Monte Carlo Radio Abu Sharif said he is committed to the programme of the PLO, and what he wrote reflects that programme and the resolutions of the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile).

Abu Sharif, whose article has so far raised criticism from several Palestinian commando groups, expressed belief that those who criticised the article had not read it but heard about it.

The US administration commented on the article by saying that it includes constructive points, but the Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir rejected it.

In Doha, US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said that the article included positive points such as displaying some understanding toward what the US official described as "Israeli fears of Arab intentions toward Israel."

New Iraqi push

All Iranian soldiers driven out of southern marshes

BAGHDAD, June 26, (Agencies): Iraq said its Army drove the last pockets of Iranian occupiers out of its southern Howezah marshes in a new push today.

Iraqi officers who took part in the assault on the Majnoon islands in the marshes yesterday said paratroopers were dropped behind the Iranian garrison to cut them off while ground forces thrust eastward, a report from the frontline said.

The report said the Iraqi 3rd Army Corps, spearheaded by units of the elite Presidential Guard drove the Iranians back across the border and pursued them into Iran.

Seized

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA), quoted a military communique as saying the Baghdad forces returned within Iraqi borders today.

Iraq's official Islamic Republic News Agency, admitted that Iraqis had pushed its forces out of the Majnoon sector, Iran's last foothold in southern Iraq, and "gained control" of islands in the swamplands.

But it charged the Iraqis seized the islands, held by Iran since 1984, through "extensive use of chemical weapons to force Iran's combatants to retreat."

INA quoted an unidentified "authoritative source" in Baghdad as denying chemical weapons were used.

Iraqi military communiques yesterday said fighter-bombers attacked military targets southwest of Ahvaz to prevent Iran moving up troops to reinforce its beleaguered Majnoon garrison.

Predicted

Iraq claimed its anti-aircraft gunners shot down an Iraqi jet yesterday. But Iraq denied losing any planes.

The INA reported that President Saddam Hussein hailed yesterday's victory as "the last of the difficult battles."

INA said Saddam, addressing commanders of the Presidential Guard, predicted "final victory soon" in the Gulf war.

The Iraqis, displaying a new aggressiveness after six years of defensive warfare, recaptured the Faw peninsula in southern

Iraq on April 18 and drove the Iranians out of a bridgehead east of the port city of Basra on May 25.

The Iraqis claimed "large numbers" of Iranians were killed or wounded in the Majnoon fighting, with more than 2,000 captured along with "big quantities" of weapons and other equipment.

Western military sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Iraqis heavily outnumbered the Iranian defenders in Majnoon.

Powerful

The sources said the Iraqis had marshalled 2,000 Soviet-built tanks and 200 artillery pieces that laid down a fierce barrage while the Presidential Guards and infantry pushed into the swamplands.

The Iraqis only had some 60 tanks and a few batteries of artillery, the sources said.

Iraq flung its powerful Air Force into action as well, with fighter-bombers and helicopter gunships flying 513 combat missions, military communiques said.

Murphy warns of Mideast war

BAGHDAD, June 26, (Agencies): US envoy Richard Murphy discussed the Gulf war today with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

It said Murphy, an Assistant Secretary of State in charge of Middle East affairs, flew in late yesterday on the sixth stop of an eight-nation swing.

The agency said Aziz briefed Murphy on developments of the eight-year-old war with Iraq. Murphy arrived from Qatar.

He earlier visited Saudi Arabia, North Yemen, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

In Doha, the Qatar News Agency, QNA said yesterday, Murphy warned that a new war could break out in the Middle East in the absence of tangible progress towards solving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Efforts

The United States had renewed efforts to hold an international peace conference on the Middle East, but disagreed with

the Soviet Union over its nature, Murphy said.

He said the United States wanted a conference that would not be empowered to impose its will on the participants.

On the Iran-Iraq war, Murphy said the United States was working on an arms ban against whichever side failed to go along with UN resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire, but progress was slow.

He also was scheduled to visit Kuwait and Bahrain.



Visibility was down to a kilometre at times yesterday due to the dust-storm.

Kuwait buys Egyptian arms to deter Iran

KUWAIT and Egypt have signed an arms deal for the supply of "sophisticated" weapons, to Kuwait, a Defence Ministry statement said yesterday.

The statement did not provide details of the deal, but diplomatic sources said it involved the sale of about 100 Egyptian-built armoured personnel carriers (APCs) and an integrated air defence system.

The statement said the agreement was signed by Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Brig. Ahmed Awad Saleh on behalf of the Egyptian Defence Ministry.

Intended

The air defence system, called the Amoun, is intended to help stop Iranian missiles such as the ones that slammed into Kuwaiti oil installations last year in retaliation for Kuwait's support for Iraq, diplomats said.

The Amoun relies heavily on Swiss engineering and Italian hardware and consists of a radar system, two 35mm guns and two anti-aircraft missile launchers, military sources said.

The Egyptians say it complements Kuwait's existing air defences, which consist of Soviet-made SAM-7 and US-made Hawk missiles, the sources said.

Training of Kuwaiti armed forces personnel was part of the deal, they added, but there would be no substantial increase in the 50 or so Egyptian military advisers already in Kuwait.

The sources said Kuwait's purchase of the Fahd APC did

not rule out another order for more advanced models from the Soviet Union or Britain. Kuwait has been considering Britain's Warrior and the Soviet BMP2.

Egyptian-made tanks, armoured vehicles, radar systems, and anti-aircraft and anti-tank missiles were displayed at a recent exhibition in Kuwait and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah was then reported to be interested in acquiring some of the equipment.

Egypt had been trying to market its military equipment in the Gulf since the region's states restored diplomatic relations with Cairo after an Arab summit meeting in Amman last November.

Ties were ruptured when Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Expressed

Egyptian leaders, including President Hosni Mubarak and Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala, visited Kuwait after relations were resumed and expressed readiness to supply the Gulf state with weapons for self-defence.

The deal is Egypt's biggest sale yet to an Arab Gulf state other than Iraq and gives it a foothold in one of the world's most lucrative arms markets.

Egypt has had military advisers in Kuwait since the 1960s.

Kuwait is in the midst of a major arms buying spree. A request for 40 American F/A-18 fighter-bombers and 660 missiles worth a total of \$1.9 billion is now under review by the US Congress.

Dust-storm halts shipping

By Lima Khalafawi

SHIPPING was halted in Kuwait yesterday due to a severe dust-storm. However, air traffic was not affected.

An Interior Ministry spokesman has appealed to drivers to slow down during dust-storms and to drive carefully on the highways and expressways. Poor visibility and strong winds yesterday hampered traffic but no accidents were reported.

The dust-storm has reduced temperatures to 38°C (100°F), six degrees below the normal average for this time of year, meteorologists don't expect the dust to subside today.

Density

A spokesman of the Meteorological Office said the dust will not subside today but its density will reduce.

Shipping came to a halt yesterday early in the morning due to strong winds and rough sea, which reduced visibility to less than a kilometre. Winds blew at 40 kph yesterday, forcing the ports authority to suspend shipping.

A spokesman of the Ports Public Authority said he could not definitely say when shipping would be resumed but added, "it (shipping) will resume after the dust subsides".

The dust-storm is normal for this time of year and is known as Al Bawareh. Meteorologists said the phenomenon was caused by a big mass of cold air blowing towards the country, displacing hot air and causing dust to rise.

Al Bawareh is also caused by an atmospheric pressure blowing towards the Mediterranean Sea from the east and going towards the west from the Indian sub-continent.

Pakistan increases defence spending

ISLAMABAD, June 26, (KUNA): Pakistan will spend 25 per cent of its national budget in the new financial year on defence, showing a nominal increase of 6.7 per cent over the last year's allocation.

An amount of rupees 48.32 billion has been allocated to the defence services in the budget for 1988-89 announced by Finance Minister Dr Mahboobul Haque today.

Presenting the budget this afternoon to the nation on radio and television network, he said this allocation was despite a Rs. 2.5 billion cut applied on the defence expenditure to balance the deficit budget.

Surplus

The total budget of the country is Rs. 186.39 billion which has been made surplus by about Rs 3000 million to wipe off original deficit.

Besides defence, the budget has been made surplus by applying Rs. 1 billion cut on administrative expenditure and Rs 1 billion on development expenditure besides resorting to an additional taxation of the order of Rs 13254 million.

Israel in contact with PLO

LONDON, June 26, (Agencies): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir authorised talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation's political headquarters in Tunis to try to arrange an exchange for three Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon, the Sunday Times reported. A spokesman for Shamir today denied the report.

The report, attributed to unidentified Israeli and PLO sources, said the contacts have continued, despite Shamir "insisting publicly that he would never permit such meetings because the PLO was dedicated to the destruction of the Jewish state."

(Continued on Page 2)

Police beat up women protesters

Benazir cautions Zia against delaying polls

ISLAMABAD, June 26, (AP): Baton-wielding police attacked an all-female procession over the weekend in one Pakistani city, while in another the leader of the opposition launched her election campaign.

In Lahore police today indiscriminately lashed out with sticks as they waded through about 150 demonstrating women protesting the implementation of Islamic law, according to an eyewitness report.

Meanwhile, in Karachi, the leader of Pakistan's opposition, Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan People's Party chief, warned President Zia-ul-Haq against postponing elections.

On May 29, General Zia, who also is Army Chief of Staff, dissolved Parliament and fired his civilian government, charging them with among other things, failing to move forward on "Islamisation." He has yet to set a date for election.

"This time you (Zia) cannot escape elections," Benazir told thousands attending a rally in Karachi.

She was referring to Zia's promise to hold elections within 90 days after overthrowing her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, in a military coup in 1977.

But instead he introduced martial law and it wasn't until 1985 that he held elections on a non-party basis. Zia interpreted a referendum on Islamisation of Pakistan the same year, as tacit approval of his presidency.

Custody

Members of Benazir's People's Party were among the Lahore demonstrators. Eyewitnesses said the women were waving placards rejecting

"Zia's Islam" and condemning the United States for befriending "the dictator of Pakistan."

They later held a sit-in and again were forcibly removed by police. Six women were taken into custody.

The women said they feared Islamic law would negate Muslim family laws introduced in 1961 acknowledging women's right to divorce as well as demanding registration of marriages and divorces.

Benazir plans to hold a rally in Lahore during the first week of July.

ARAB TIMES

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Top Line	KD 25
First Full House	KD100
Second Full House	KD 60
Third Full House	KD 40

INTERNATIONAL

Framework established to solve southern Africa crisis

Peace efforts progress: Botha

JOHANNESBURG, June 26. (Reuters): South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha returned home today from a Cairo conference on southern Africa and said a framework for a regional peace settlement had been established.

"We went there to try and put up a framework within which I hope we can now make progress on a step-by-step basis. That is what we have done," Botha told reporters on board the jet which carried the South African delegation back from two days of US-mediated discussions with Angola and Cuba.

The four nations said they made tentative progress towards agreement on a withdrawal of an estimated 50,000 Cuban troops from Angola and independence for neighbouring South African-ruled Namibia. Experts from the four countries will meet again in the United States in mid-July.

"It's now a question of bringing the positions closer to one another. We must try to get agreement on a broad basis of objectives, principles, guidelines and use that first step as a firm foundation to work out an

agreement in greater detail," Botha said.

He added the talks had not allayed his fears about Cuban troop movements in southern Angola. South Africa says 12,000 Cuban troops have advanced close to Namibia's northern border.

Botha said he had told the head of the Cuban delegation, Jorge Risquet, that "with the closeness of large numbers of military forces, you only need a spark to set a big fire to explode."

South African forces have already intervened in southern Angola in support of pro-Western rebels engaged in a 13-year-old civil war against the Angolan government. The Cubans have been backing the Luanda government in the conflict.

Asked whether South Africa would be prepared to grant independence to Namibia, the former German colony of South West Africa, as part of a regional settlement, Botha said:

"South Africa would gladly accept a voluntary, free and fair decision on the part of the people of South West Africa as to their

constitutional process or future on condition we are satisfied this is not forced on them by a hostile power..."

Pretoria refuses to implement a United Nations blueprint for Namibian independence until Cuban troops leave Angola, saying the presence of the Cubans over the border could influence the outcome of elections.

Botha said there had been a remarkable change in the attitude of the Angolan and Cuban delegates in the course of the talks. Delegates said the negotiations came close to collapse on Friday but were far more constructive on Saturday.

"It could have been that the superpowers, both the United States and the Soviet Union, played a role which they would not admit openly..." Botha said.

Meanwhile, a senior Cuban official said today his country was not seeking military victory in Angola, where its forces back the government in a 13-year-old civil war.

But the reality of the war would force South Africa to withdraw its troops from

Angola, Communist Party politburo member Jorge Risquet told a news conference after leading Cuba's team to peace talks which ended in Cairo yesterday.

He said the time was ripe for agreement on independence for South African-ruled Namibia and an end to the Angolan conflict.

Risquet strongly defended a recent reinforcement of the Cuban military contingent in Angola and a big offensive by Cuban and Angolan forces towards the Namibian border.

"We do not seek a military victory over South Africa but we want a just and honourable agreement on independence for Namibia, security in Angola and peace in southwestern Africa," Risquet said.

He said it was hard to judge whether Pretoria was serious in taking part in the peace talks, which also involve Angola, Cuba and the United States and which will resume at the level of experts in the US.

"It's not a matter of sincerity but of reality," Risquet said in Havana's first public comment on the Cairo meeting.



Angolan Foreign Minister Afonso (right) listens to his South African counterpart, P. W. Botha, speaking during a two-day conference on peace in southern Africa. The meeting ended in Cairo yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kidnappers free girl near Rome

GROSSETO, Italy, June 26. (UPI): Kidnappers released a 16-year-old girl near a Rome taxi rank early today after holding her hostage for nearly seven months, police said.

Esteranne Ricca, the granddaughter of a rich landowner, with whom she lived after her parents separated at Pietrarotondo di Paganico near Grosseto in west central Italy, was abducted on her way to school last Dec. 2.

Four armed men wearing police uniforms stopped her car and tied up the driver and her brother Leandro, 17, who were with her. The kidnappers demanded a 5 billion lire (\$3.8 million) ransom from her family.

Ricca told police she had been woken in the middle of the night and driven in a car for two hours before being released near a taxi rank in the Rome suburbs.

She then took a taxi for a 150 kilometre journey home after discovering there were no trains.

She said she had been well treated by her kidnappers and doctors said she was in good physical and psychological condition after her 207 day ordeal.

Democrats reject Jackson's policies

DENVER, June 26. (Reuters): Michael Dukakis won all major outstanding battles on party policy against Jesse Jackson in a meeting last night of the Democratic platform committee.

The platform committee shaped a document of about 4,000 words that mirrored most of Dukakis' centrist views and rejected all four remaining major demands of the black leader.

The Dukakis camp defeated bids to put Democrats on record for higher taxes on the wealthy, a defence spending freeze, Palestinian self-determination for a homeland and a stated policy against first use of nuclear weapons.

Two-state

By an overwhelming 108-44 vote, Dukakis delegates rejected the tax hike and military freeze planks and rejected the others — including one which called for a ban on nuclear missile and war-head testing — in voice votes.

These were important victories for Dukakis, showing he is in charge of delegates as he heads into the Democratic Party

nominating convention starting in Atlanta on July 18.

Meanwhile, an American-Palestinian deported from Israel two weeks ago has urged Democrats to call in their party platform for "a two-state" solution in the Middle East.

That would be "a great victory," Mubarak Awad said at a luncheon where the Democratic Party's platform committee was meeting.

Awad, an advocate of civil disobedience, urged the Democrats to address the Palestinian plight in the platform, a statement outlining the party's stand on various issues. Israel deported Awad on June 13 after 40 days in custody and accused him of fomenting unrest in the occupied West Bank.

Awad, a Christian, said he was thinking of converting to Judaism if that is the only way for him to get back into Israel and his native Jerusalem.

Jackson has sought to have the Democrats support a Palestinian homeland in their platform, but rival Dukakis, the party's likely nominee, has resisted.

IRA plot to assassinate Queen Mother

LONDON, June 26. (KUNA): British police have uncovered what they believed was an IRA plot to assassinate the Queen Mother, according to a mass-circulation newspaper here today.

The Sunday Mirror reported that a world-wide hunt was underway today for two men who had been tracking the Royal yacht Britannia off Sicily, Italy.

British anti-terrorist police were alerted after a single-masted yacht was found abandoned on a sandbank near Britannia, which was carrying the mother of Britain's Queen Elizabeth on a private holiday.

Sea charts showing Britannia's route to Palermo were found on the marooned boat, the weekly added.

The Italian Ministry of Defence believed that two men who swam from the boat were "terrorists", the publication said.

Fresh voting ordered

NEW DELHI, June 26. (Reuters): Election officials have ordered a fresh round of voting in parts of two Indian parliamentary constituencies where the opposition and ruling Congress (I) party have accused each other of vote rigging.

An Election Commission official said last night voting would be held next month in nearly 175 polling stations in Faridabad, near New Delhi, and Udhampur, in the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir.

UN special session ends

No accord on disarmament

UNITED NATIONS, June 26. (Reuters): Despite an all-night final effort, a month-long UN special session on disarmament ended in failure early today without agreement on a set of guidelines for future arms cuts.

The session was the least successful of the three held since 1978 devoted entirely to the problems of swollen arsenals, now costing close to \$1,000 billion a year.

Its opening had been accompanied by hopeful auguries, including last December's US-Soviet accord scrapping intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) and the recent upbeat summit meeting in Moscow between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

A proposed final document, founded on the wording of sections dealing with a number of specific topics.

They included: a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty, chemical weapons, verification of arms cuts, naval disarmament, the relationship between disarmament and development, and references to Israel and South Africa as having acquired nuclear-weapon capabilities.

The chairman of the main negotiating committee announced before dawn that intensive consultations had failed to produce consensus.

Wary delegates then spent another 90 minutes debating proposals to make one more try. Suggestions ranged from one by Sweden to keep negotiating for another four hours to an Indian proposal to adjourn until a "more propitious moment in 1989."

The Soviet Union, China, Iran, Sri Lanka and Yugoslavia were among those who wanted to keep trying.

The United States and several other countries, including Syria, Senegal and Gabon, said all hope of agreement appeared to have evaporated.

But the committee, which invariably acts by consensus, was unable to decide and tossed the whole problem to the assembly plenary, which convened soon afterwards and decided to close the books on the session.

It has been due to end on Saturday but a parliamentary device was invoked shortly before midnight to "stop the clock" and allow backstage bargaining to continue into the small hours.

Despite the failure of the session, the non-confrontational atmosphere that marked its opening was largely maintained, despite occasional flashes of anger or finger-pointing.

In addition to East-West rivalries, differences surfaced between Third World countries seeking a major role for the United Nations in disarmament and major powers that do not wish to be hamstrung in their bilateral negotiations.

Kampuchea to mark Vietnamese troop pullout

BANGKOK, June 26. (Reuters): Vietnamese soldiers will parade through Phnom Penh on Thursday on their way home as part of a withdrawal from Kampuchea that is leaving the fate of the war-torn country increasingly in the hands of its own people.

Fifty thousand Vietnamese Army "volunteers" will leave this year and the remaining 50,000 will be out in 1990, Hanoi and the Phnom Penh government announced one month ago.

Visitors returning from Kampuchea last week said the pullout was already under way.

Hundreds of foreign journalists and observers from Soviet-bloc countries will witness Thursday's ceremonial parade, in which troop transport vehicles will roll past the towering independence monument in the heart of the run-down Kampuchean capital.

Vietnam has said 40,000 troops will quit Kampuchea in June. The Vietnamese high military command is also being pulled out and its remaining troops will be under Kampuchean propaganda gambits disguising troops rotations.

Western diplomats said Hanoi appeared serious about its promise of a total pullout in 1990 and add that the June withdrawal has given Hanoi the initiative in the international debate on Kampuchea.

2 Syrians killed as PLO camp war flares

BEIRUT, June 26. (AP): The two sons of a Palestinian leader were killed today when his booby-trapped car exploded outside his home in south Lebanon as a power struggle flared between rival PLO factions based in Beirut refugee camps.

Police said eight people were killed including two Syrians, and 14 wounded as Yasser Arafat's loyalists and dissidents of Col. Saad Mousa's Fatah-urprising faction clashed with mortars and rockets in the Chatilla and Bourj Al Barajneh shantytowns.

The fighting shattered a one-day lull in the war for control of the refugee camps on Beirut's southern outskirts.

Police said artillery duels erupted before dawn and raged through the day.

Pressure eases on Gorbachev

Armenians return to work

MOSCOW, June 26. (Reuters): A month-long strike has been called off in the disputed area of Nagorno-Karabakh, Pravda said today, easing pressure on Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev before a party conference crucial to his reforms.

In Stepanakert, capital of the predominantly Armenian enclave in Soviet Azerbaijan, a Communist Party official said some factories started working again today.

But she said it would not be clear until tomorrow whether there would be a mass return by striking workers who had previously sworn to continue their protest until authorities addressed their demands for unification with Armenia.

"As for tomorrow, we'll see," the official told Reuters by telephone.

The unrest in Nagorno-Karabakh is a potential embarrassment for Gorbachev

during the party conference, which begins on Tuesday, where he hopes to gain approval for radical reforms. Ethnic relations are among the subjects to be discussed.

In recent weeks Stepanakert has been described as being out of control, with public transport at a standstill and factories idle while daily demonstrations go on.

Soviet media say truckloads of staples such as sugar, tea and rice delivered from outside the region stand unloaded while citizens march around town waving pro-Armenian slogans.

Pravda said people in Stepanakert, which has a population of 33,000, called off the strike at a mass meeting yesterday at which speakers said they needed to work to support perestroika, Gorbachev's plan of reforming the economy and society.

Others argued that they should wait until after the party

conference, but they were overruled, it said.

Soviet political commentators have warned that the trouble could strengthen the position of hardliners who may argue at the conference that Gorbachev's liberalisation campaign has already gone too far.

Thirty-five people have died in ethnic clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis since Nagorno-Karabakh's governing council first called for unification with Armenia in February.

Armenians consider Nagorno-Karabakh part of their ancestral homeland. But since 1923 it has been administered by Azerbaijan, which says Nagorno-Karabakh is important to Azerbaijani history and culture.

The labour newspaper Trud today criticised the Nagorno-Karabakh general strike, saying it was "a stab in perestroika's back."

Another heat wave hits US Midwest

CHICAGO, June 26. (Reuters): The Midwest wilted under another blast of stifling hot weather yesterday, although relief from the heat — but not the drought — was in the forecast, meteorologists said.

The drought — the worst since the depression — could cause a rise in US inflation, said James Miller, the director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

The temperatures in Chicago were 100 degrees (37.7 C) at midday, tying a record for the date set back in 1954. The record-breaking heat was felt all around

the Midwest, but residents can expect a respite today, said Dan Kottowski of ACCU-Weather Inc., a private forecasting service.

"There will be a big reduction in the heat during the next day or two," he said. "But as far as rain, we don't see much."

Theories put forward to explain the origin of the drought, which was set to enter its fourth month, were plentiful — ranging from the "Greenhouse effect" to increased activity in the sun and to the recent lack of volcanic eruptions.

But farmers were not interested in the reasons for the worst dry spell in 50 years, they just wanted rain for their withering crops.

Farmers in Clyde, Ohio, hired a group of Sioux Indians to conduct rain dances last week, and other Midwest farmers have paid cloud seeders to squeeze moisture from scarce clouds.

Rain squalls hit the southern Gulf of Mexico region overnight, helping to raise water levels slightly on the Mississippi River, which was closed for dredging further north at St Genieve, Missouri.

Pay taxes in full, Zia asks Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD, June 26. (AP): Pakistan's president yesterday urged the rich to pay their taxes in full in order to enable the government to provide basic needs to the poor as part of his plan to establish Islam across the nation.

"Islam opposes concentration of wealth in a few hands, as it is contrary to the welfare of the masses," said President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq in a speech aired nationally by radio and television.

Zia also asked the rich to "pay their taxes in full."

"The government will announce five major changes in the tax system to punish the tax evaders, and confiscate the property they and their families own," he warned.

This is the third Zia speech since he dismissed his civilian Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, his 33-member cabinet and the 237-member National Assembly on May 29 on charges of corruption and incompetence and failure to introduce Islam.

Pledges Junejo has denied these charges. Zia has pledged to speed up efforts to spread Islam in order to reform the society and the economy.

Zia urged the nation to fulfill its Islamic duty to look after the poor.

Zia spoke in terms of "the Islamic obligations of the rich," and "plight of the poor" in Pakistan where annual income per head is less than \$400.

Recalling examples from Islam's history and plight of the poor who frequently come to him to redress their difficulties, Zia was emotionally overwhelmed, and nearly sobbed, on several occasions during his 50-minute speech.

Israel lacks plan to end uprising

TEL AVIV, June 26. (Reuters): The Israeli Army general staff expects a six-month-old Palestinian uprising to continue but has yet to propose practical steps to quash the unrest, a senior military official said today.

The staff's top generals met the Israeli civilian and Army officials from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for several hours on Friday to draw conclusions from the first half-year of the uprising, one official said.

At the meeting, the Army came under fire for reacting to violence rather than taking initiatives that would surprise organisers and demonstrators, he said, but little of value emerged from the lengthy session.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the Army expected violence would continue, despite public statements by some Israeli leaders in recent weeks that unrest appeared to be winding down from the lengthy session.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, due in Washington primarily for talks at the Pentagon, planned to discuss the uprising and Middle East peace efforts this week with US leaders at the White House and State Department.

Israel in contact with PLO

(Continued from Page 1)

The newspaper said the disclosure "is likely to embarrass Shamir, who has blocked a proposed Middle East peace conference on his insistence that he will not negotiate with the PLO."

Ambushed The Israelis still do not know the whereabouts of the three soldiers, the report added. It said they disappeared when their tank was ambushed by Syrians on June 11, 1982.

It said a fourth soldier in the tank, Hezi Shai, was returned by a Palestinian dissident faction in a 1985 exchange of three Israelis for 1,150 Palestinian prisoners.

The Sunday Times said the contacts began last November when the PLO contacted an Israeli Arab, Ahmed Tibi, to say it had information about the soldiers. It said Tibi made contact with Shamir through Cabinet Minister Ezer Weizman and Shamir authorised Tibi to visit Tunis to see the PLO.

The report said Tibi met PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and PLO military chief Abu Jihad in Tunis last January "but the PLO terms proved unacceptable."

It said the PLO freed 20 Palestinian prisoners in return for information about the soldiers' whereabouts and Tibi was told by Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin the price was too high.

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Biggest blow to Kremlin in Afghan war

8 Soviet war jets destroyed

ISLAMABAD, June 26. (Reuters). Fire and explosions destroyed eight Soviet fighter jets at Kabul airport last week in the biggest single blow to Soviet air power of the Afghan war, diplomats in Pakistan said.

The fire and explosions, believed to have been caused by guerrilla attacks, began on Thursday morning and wrecked eight SU-25 fighters parked on the tarmac, the diplomats said, quoting intelligence reports from Kabul.

The reports did not specify exactly when the jets were destroyed but said the fire stopped airport activity and flights had been diverted.

Several reports claimed that incoming rockets or shells may have first struck one aircraft, setting off an explosion which destroyed the rest "one after the other."

The diplomats said witnesses reported that the fire and explosions started at the north-western end of the airport where the planes were parked.

It was unclear what caused the fire. The reports said blue and white smoke and secondary

explosions suggested that ammunition aboard one of the jets might have detonated.

The diplomats said incoming rockets or shells hit a small ammunition dump earlier this month, starting a smaller fire.

The report did not indicate if there were casualties in the airport incident but said fighting was under way on Thursday on the plain between Khargha Lake and Paghman, 15 km west of Kabul.

Town

In another incident, rebel forces shot down a Soviet transport plane near the eastern city of Khost in the third week of June, killing between 30 and 40 people, the diplomats said. They could not give a precise date or say if the casualties were soldiers.

Afghan rebels seized the town of Maydan Shahr near the capital Kabul last week and held it for one day before government forces regained control, the Communist Party daily Pravda said today.

There was considerable loss of life and property damage, the newspaper said, but it gave no

casualty figures.

About 2,000 rebels attacked the town in the province of Vardak about 50 km southwest of Kabul on Friday with rocket fire and heavy artillery, Pravda said.

They managed to overrun outposts and fought "bloody battles" in the city for a day before they were forced to retreat, it said.

The rebels fired more rockets as they departed, "creating more victims among the civilian population," Pravda said.

The town has now been reinforced by troops of the Moscow-backed government and "the situation in the city is being normalised," Pravda said.

It did not mention Soviet troops, leaving it unclear whether they were still in the province.

Refugees

The Soviet Union began withdrawing more than 100,000 soldiers from Afghanistan in mid-May. All of the troops are scheduled to leave by February 15 next year.

Pravda charged the attack was part of new tactics by rebels to

capture small cities at least temporarily "to provide a propaganda effect."

Afghan refugees seeking help from Dr Mohammad Azam Dadfar's psychiatric clinic are haunted by loneliness and the memories of their villages bombed, their spouses and children killed.

Since opening his Peshawar clinic in January 1986, the Kabul-trained psychiatrist and his team have seen 22,800 refugees of Afghanistan's communist-Muslim civil war. He, a dozen psychiatrists, trainees and case workers have treated 8,000 during the first five months of this year.

Add to his statistics another 470 victims of alleged torture ranging in age from 12 to 80.

If the war ended tomorrow, the effects would continue for years to come because there is a generation of psychologically mutilated Afghans, said Dadfar.

They are the children. Some know no other life but the refugee camps ground Peshawar, 45 kms from Afghanistan's eastern border.



A young driver pulls his rickshaw on a rain-flooded street in Dhaka. (Reuters wirephoto)

Nine die in Bangladesh floods

DHAKA, June 26. (AP). Heavy monsoon rains have pushed rivers over their banks in north-eastern and southern districts, killing nine people and leaving thousands stranded and homeless, officials and press reports said today.

Six people drowned yesterday when heavy rains sank their boats in the flooded Matamuhur River near the port city of Chittagong, 160 kilometres southeast of Dhaka, newspaper reports said.

Two people died in northern Sherpur district and one died in neighbouring Netrokona district when their mud huts collapsed under torrential rain, the Dainik Bangla newspaper said.

The northeastern hilly rivers of Surma, Someswari and Muhuri have flowed above the danger mark since last Friday, the Dainik Bangla reported.

More than 200,000 people were trapped in Sunamganj district, the report said.

More than 5,000 mud and straw huts collapsed in the rain in northern Sherpur district, leaving 25,000 people homeless.

Relief officials at Sherpur said nearly 10,000 people had been taken to government shelters and camps.

Since last month, nearly 50 people have died in flooding in Bangladesh, according to press reports. The official death toll, however, is 25.

Four Gurkhas killed

DARJEELING, June 26. (Reuters). Gurkha militants ambushed a police contingent in a north-east India tea-growing area today, starting an exchange of fire in which four attackers were killed, police said.

Darjeeling police chief Ramesh Handa said the militants, who are campaigning for their own state within India, attacked the police 50 km from Darjeeling.

Five people, including four Gurkhas, were killed in the area on Saturday.

More than 300 people have been killed in the two years since the Gurkha National Liberation Front began its campaign for statehood.

Agreement reached in New Caledonia

PARIS, June 26. (Reuters). French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said today that pro-French loyalists and separatist Kanaks meeting to discuss the future of New Caledonia had reached an agreement.

Rocard said in a statement that under the accord, hammered out last night by delegations representing the two rival communities, a new independence referendum would be held on the islands in 10 years time.

Residents of the South Pacific territory, the scene of clashes that have claimed 28 lives, last year voted to remain French in a referendum boycotted by the ethnic Melanesians.

The question of when a referendum would be staged and who would be allowed to vote in it has sharply divided the two communities until now.

Separatists seeking to end 135 years of French rule had called for a vote in five years time, to be limited to Kanaks and first-generation settlers.

But loyalists wanted a vote put off until 1998 and opened to all residents - with French nation-

ality. The two delegations met at Rocard's residence at the hotel Matignon on Thursday for the first formal negotiations between the communities in five years.

During a brief 90-minute meeting Rocard asked delegates to retire to study a nine-point plan outlining a new statute for the territories.

The plan offered Kanaks a limited form of self-rule, outlining proposals for a federation of three autonomous provinces to govern the islands for an experimental period until the referendum in 1998.

The plan also proposed placing New Caledonia directly under Paris' authority for a year before the new statute would come into force, in order to defuse tension on the islands.

Rocard said in his statement today that he would ask President Francois Mitterrand to stage a separate referendum in the autumn at which all French voters would be asked whether they wanted the new statute introduced.

Little impact on Egyptian-American ties expected

US downplays missile scandal

WASHINGTON, June 26. (Reuters). US claims that Egyptian agents tried to smuggle missile secrets out of the United States will have little long-range impact on ties between the two nations, experts say.

US officials were trying to downplay the impact of the affair, both in Washington and in Cairo.

"We really can't comment," a State Department spokesman said about the case - in which five people, including two Egyptian military officers - were accused of participating in the scheme.

The United States accused the two Egyptian officers of directing a plot - involving more than \$1 million channelled through a Swiss bank - to obtain carbon fibre that would make missiles more difficult to be detected by radar.

US authorities claim Mohamed Mohamed, a lieutenant colonel assigned to Egypt's

Embassy in Washington, guided the plot in the United States, following orders from Colonel Hassan Youssef, who oversaw the operation from Salzburg, Austria.

US officials on Friday blocked a crate containing the lightweight, heat-resistant carbon material from being put on an Egyptian military cargo plane in Baltimore, Maryland.

In Egypt, US Ambassador Frank Wisner told reporters: "I think there is a very important relationship between the United States and Egypt and problems can be managed."

Experts in the United States said the remarks underscore the importance of the ties that have developed between Washington and Cairo.

"We won't take any dramatic action against them," William Taylor, vice-president for

Canada may resume relations with Iran

NICOSIA, June 26. (Reuters). Preliminary talks are under way on a resumption of relations between Iran and Canada, the Iranian news agency IRNA said last night quoting Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

Velayati also said France and Iran had resumed "full-scale relations on the basis of mutual interest" and described ties with Britain as "relatively improved," IRNA added.

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the minister made his comments in an interview on Friday with the central news bureau.

Canada broke off ties with Iran in 1979 after Canadian officials helped spirit six US hostages out of the country.

IRNA gave no details of the talks of ties with Canada.

Velayati said Tehran's diplomatic ties were based on its foreign policy principles and Iran would sever relations with any country which opposed those principles.

Benefit

Iran and France resumed relations on June 16 after an 11-month break. IRNA, in a separate report, quoted a senior official as saying French industrialists would benefit.

It quoted Reza Amrollahi, deputy premier and head of Iran's atomic energy organisation, as saying: "The French government's removal of its financial disputes with the Islamic Republic would guarantee its share in implementing key industrial projects, especially in the field of energy, in Iran."

France agreed before ties were resumed with Tehran to repay a loan outstanding since the days of the Shah.

Compensate

Britain and Iran are close to settling rival compensation claims arising from damage to embassies in both countries.

Regulations were soured a year ago by diplomatic expulsions and withdrawals. A single diplomat represents Iran in London, while Sweden looks after British interests in Iran.

Iran plans to free jailed Briton

LONDON, June 26. (Reuters). Iran plans to free a British businessman held on spying charges within a month as part of efforts to improve ties with London, the Observer newspaper said today.

The newspaper, quoting sources in Iran, said the decision to release Roger Cooper after 2-1/2 years of detention was made after four British parliamentarians visited Iran last week.

A Foreign Office spokesman said he could not confirm the report.

Cooper, 53, has been held in solitary confinement in Tehran's Evin jail. He was negotiating a business deal for the Gulf-based US oil firm McDermott when arrested.

The Observer report followed the publication of a 46-page letter from Cooper written in prison urging Britain to take the initiative in patching up relations.

Embargo

The letter, handed to the parliamentary delegation and later published in Tehran, urges an end to the embargo on arms deals with Iran and increased aid, trade and cultural ties.

The British politicians, whose mission was organised by the Church of England, have since urged London to assign a diplomatic representative. They also said Iran had agreed to help find British hostages kidnapped in Lebanon.

A year ago, Anglo-Iranian relations were soured by a spate of diplomatic expulsions and withdrawals. Iran is now represented by a single diplomat in London while British interests in Iran are handled by the Swedish ambassador.

In a sign of warming ties, the two countries this month agreed to the outlines of a deal settling compensation claims for damage to their respective embassies.

Ozal makes two cabinet changes

ANKARA, June 26. (Reuters). Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal announced two cabinet changes today, replacing the justice minister and a state minister responsible for environment and mining.

Ozal told reporters Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu was being replaced by Mehmet Topal, a virtually unknown deputy of the ruling Motherland Party.

Veteran politician Kamran Inan would succeed state minister Veyssel Atasoy, Ozal said after a meeting with President Kenan Evren. Cabinet changes are announced after the President's approval.

The Prime Minister said Sungurlu and Atasoy, who are both supported by a strong rightwing faction within the party, were excused from their cabinet posts because they had been given important positions in the Motherland administration.

Sungurlu was made deputy chairman in charge of party organisation by Ozal on Thursday, a job considered by political analysts as a most important one in the Motherland's administrative hierarchy.

Atasoy was made deputy party chairman in charge of election affairs.

First visit to Israel by a Japanese minister

Uno arrives in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 26. (Reuters). Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno arrived in Israel today - the first Japanese minister ever to visit the Zionist state - to discuss peace prospects with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

Uno, who arrived from Egypt after visiting Jordan and Syria, issued a statement at Tel Aviv airport saying he would look for ways that Tokyo could help the Middle East peace process.

He was met by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who said the 24-hour visit was a beginning to improved relations between the two countries.

"It is our hope that we can cooperate very closely in many fields, particularly in science, culture and of course politics," Peres said.

Uno was taken to Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Memorial for vic-

tims of the Nazi holocaust and was due to call on Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

Israeli officials said while trade would be discussed, Uno was expected to focus on regional issues and was likely to do some tough talking about peace in separate meetings with Peres and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Attacks

Meanwhile, a Japanese Red Army guerrilla group in Lebanon today attacked the visit to Israel by Uno.

"We in the Japanese Red Army strongly condemn the official visit to Israel... as it aims to strengthen ties with the Zionists," a statement delivered to an international news agency in Beirut said.

The statement said the Red Army would fight against what it described as Japan's inter-

national role.

It was not possible to check the authenticity of the document. The Red Army is reported to have military training camps in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa along-side radical Palestinian groups.

Although Japan has a trade surplus with Israel on paper, over half of the state's \$700 million of exports to Japan consist of diamonds, which are imported to Israel and have little added value to the economy.

Unlike most Western countries, Japan has no anti-boycott laws and many Japanese companies have surrendered to the Arab boycott and do not market their products in Israel.

One of these companies, the Mitsubishi Conglomerate, has recently decided to sell cars in Israel in a distinct policy change, the English-language Jerusalem Post newspaper reported.

Egypt to revive ancient library

ALEXANDRIA, June 26. (UPI). Egypt launched an ambitious project today, possibly 1,500 years late, to rebuild the library of Alexandria, one of the wonders of the ancient world which was destroyed in the fourth century AD.

With UNESCO director-general Federico Mayor by his side, President Hosni Mubarak laid the foundation-stone of the new structure, near Alexandria's Mediterranean coastline and close to the spot where the ancient library is believed to have existed.

The new library will be built over 45,000 square metres at a cost of \$160 million and is targeted to include eight million books and manuscripts. UNESCO had issued an appeal to the world to provide assistance to the Egyptian scheme.

The ancient library was once described as "the most learned spot on earth."

Slow rescue work angers relatives of landslide victims

CATAK, Turkey, June 26. (Reuters). Rescue workers and relatives are voicing frustration at the site of a buried Turkish village where only one body has been recovered in three days of digging.

Hope is fading of finding any survivors among the 44 people listed officially as missing after a landslide hit the Black Sea village of Catak and a main road on Thursday, swallowing cars, buses, a school and a restaurant.

"They are not working quickly. Absolutely not. I am angry. If they do not get the bodies out we will get them out with our own hands," Orhan Bektaş, awaiting news of a missing relative, told Reuters as work wound up last night.

Frustration

Some rescue workers said they still believed there could be over 44 missing - possibly more than 100. Officials have dismissed an early estimate, by the Turkish Red Crescent, that 300 people might have been trapped.

The governor of the nearby port of Trabzon, Enver Hızlan, said clearance work could take up to 15 days, adding: "We are continuing our efforts even if there is only one-millionth of a chance that there are survivors."

Some rescue workers voiced frustration at the pace of work, interrupted in the first two days by fresh rock falls and halted for two hours on Saturday while landslide experts checked the 400 metre peak for fresh slides, although none came.

Dr Stefan Luhrs, medical leader of a West German rescue team which has swollen to 32 people and 21 sniffer dogs, said: "Every time the dogs find a spore, we are told to stop."

Two hundred Turkish rescuers are also digging through the 500,000 tonnes of compact earth and rock which cover the site.

Earlier an official, who asked not to be named, said the mangled remains of two lorries had been dragged from the edge of the slip.

"After the two lorries were pulled out and no bodies found in them, we saw the tail-end of a bus sticking out but orders were given not to continue work," he said.

A West German diplomat, who asked not to be named, said it was possible the authorities would have to leave at least some of the bodies where they were.

Luhrs said two Britons and a West German were believed to be among the missing.



A rescue worker and his dog search for the victims in the debris of a school building in Catak village. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aquino urges self-reliance in defence

MANILA, June 26. (Reuters). President Corason Aquino said today the Philippines had embarked on a programme of military self-reliance to lessen its dependence on the United States.

She said the Philippines was trying to manufacture its armaments under a "self-reliance defence programme" and her government had asked the Philippine Congress for a budget of 190 million pesos (\$9.5 million) to fund the project.

Aquino made her comments as Philippine and American officials were holding talks on the future of US military bases in the country.

Her Foreign Secretary, Raul Manglapus, said last week the Philippines could close the bases if the United States refused to pay more money for them.

Aquino was replying in a radio call-in programme to a soldier who asked whether her government could guarantee enough weapons if the Americans withdrew.

The United States is the country's chief weapons supplier and has provided more than \$100 million in military aid during the past two years as compensation for use of Clark and Subic Bay Air and Naval bases near Manila.

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Number of teenage smokers increases

AUTHORITIES are concerned with the increase in the number of smokers — especially teenagers and the serious hazards involved in indulging in this form of addiction.

The secretary of the Kuwait Anti-Smoking and Cancer Control Society Dr Hussein Momen said that the number of smokers among students had increased from 13 to 34 per cent over the past ten years and was mainly due to the overwhelming international propaganda.

He said that the "so-called low-level" of nicotine in cigarettes resulted in different hazards as serious to smokers as those who smoked cigarettes with high levels of tar and nicotine. He pointed out that 90 per cent of smokers had the willpower to

give up smoking. However, the other 10 per cent were addicts with high levels of nicotine and tar in their blood and needed specialised guidance to enable them to quit.

Momen disclosed that the anti-smoking clinic received 40 to 50 smokers seeking rehabilitation on a daily basis where specialised doctors offered help and carried out the necessary check-ups and tests to determine the best method of treatment and rehabilitation based on the percentage of tar and nicotine present in their blood.

He attached great importance to the smokers' self-initiative and co-operation in achieving success. The current haj season was a great opportunity for smokers to try and stop smoking and the

month of Ramadan was always an opportunity to quit this vice.

The secretary said information awareness campaigns had been successful in reducing the number of smokers in Kuwait by 44 per cent in 1986. However, the society's best efforts were continually being undermined by the vast financial resources spent on advertising by the tobacco companies irrespective of the dire consequences.

Concluding, Momen said that the blood stream would be free from nicotine after a period of 24 hours from smoking the last cigarette and that it took only 3 to 10 days for smokers to control themselves and be rid of this scourge — this was provided they had the determination and the willpower.

Saudi embassy ready to receive pilgrimage applications

THE head of the consular affairs department at the Saudi embassy in Kuwait, Abdurrahman Al Thaqeb announced the readiness of the embassy to receive all pilgrimage applications from Arab or non-Arab Muslims residing in Kuwait, provided these applications were in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the concerned authorities in Saudi Arabia.

Delays
In an interview with a local daily, Al Thaqeb disclosed that the consular department at the Saudi embassy in Kuwait was receiving 1500-2000 applications daily. These applications were all treated according to standard procedures — irrespective of the applicant's nationality. He added that the embassy spared no efforts towards assisting pilgrims in co-operation with the pilgrimage convoys.

Replying to a question on complaints regarding delays in processing haj visas and the complicated procedures at the embassy, the Saudi official attributed the delays to the rush and the coinciding of the haj season with the summer vacation. The other cause of delay, he said, could be attributed to the incompleteness of the required formalities to be submitted by the

applicants. He commented, that the period required for completing any transaction did not exceed five days.

On visa formalities, Al Thaqeb said that the applicant should submit a personal photograph, fill the relevant forms to be obtained from the embassy and the applicant's residence should be valid in Kuwait for at least six months. Additionally, the applicant should be registered with a Kuwaiti convoy and submit a certified cheque for an amount of Saudi riyals 444 in favour of Saudi Circumambula-

tion Establishment for pilgrims using the land route and those travelling by air, should submit a cheque for S.R.869 favouring the same establishment.

Al Thaqeb concluded by saying that applicants should bring the reservation evidence to be issued by Haj Joint Office at Kuwait Airways Tower along with the passport which would be collected by haj convoys for pilgrims using land routes and by joint office for the air passengers. He added that the closing date for receiving visa applications is July 9.

Appeal for donations

HEAD of the charitable committee for the support of Palestine and Lebanon Mubarak Saadoun Al Mutawa yesterday called on citizens and expatriates to donate for the Palestinian uprising.

Mutawa appealed for support to the Palestinians revolting for the past seven months against Israeli occupation authorities that have escalated suppressive measures against the innocent civilians.

He called on blood donors to allocate the KD10 paid by the bank to donors to the mujahideen in Palestine who are

sacrificing money and souls for the sake of their just cause.

Mutawa asked companies to contribute to this humane project by presenting awards to the donors and appealed to daily newspapers and charitable foundations to take part through publishing names of the donors in lists of honour.

The committee head elaborated on its activities namely establishment of a number of medical clinics in Palestinian refugee camps and send convoys of supplies to desolate areas and villages.

Afforestation schemes under way

AFFORESTATION schemes adopted by HH the Amir of Kuwait have been under implementation in various parts of Kuwait.

The controller of afforestation and range land at Kuwait's Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries, Jalal Al Qattan said that the authority had set up afforestation projects which would deter winds, minimise its speed and halt the encroachment of sand.

As a big area of land would be shaded by trees, the temperature would be reduced, pollution would be reduced by increasing

the oxygen produced by the trees and in turn provide comfort to birds and animals he said.

Vandalism

He added that several main afforestation projects have been implemented such as Al Jahra road, Al Rai area, Al Sulaihiyah, Al Shadadiya, Al Sabahiyah and Sixth Ring Road, including hospital campuses, military bases, clubs, airports, welfare societies and transmission stations. The projects cost several million dinars.

Al Qattan complained that the authority was suffering from

vandalism committed either by people or by stray animals and appealed to the people to protect the state's properties and positively contribute to the afforestation scheme.

Engineer Hamed Abu Zaid from the afforestation department said "future plans include the afforestation of Fifth Ring Road, Al Safar road and spring camps in addition to other sites situated near the junction of Doha and Al Jahra flyover, Al Sulaihiyah, Al Mutlaa, Al Abdali and Al Wafra roads and the north and northwest of Al Wafra Farm Projects."



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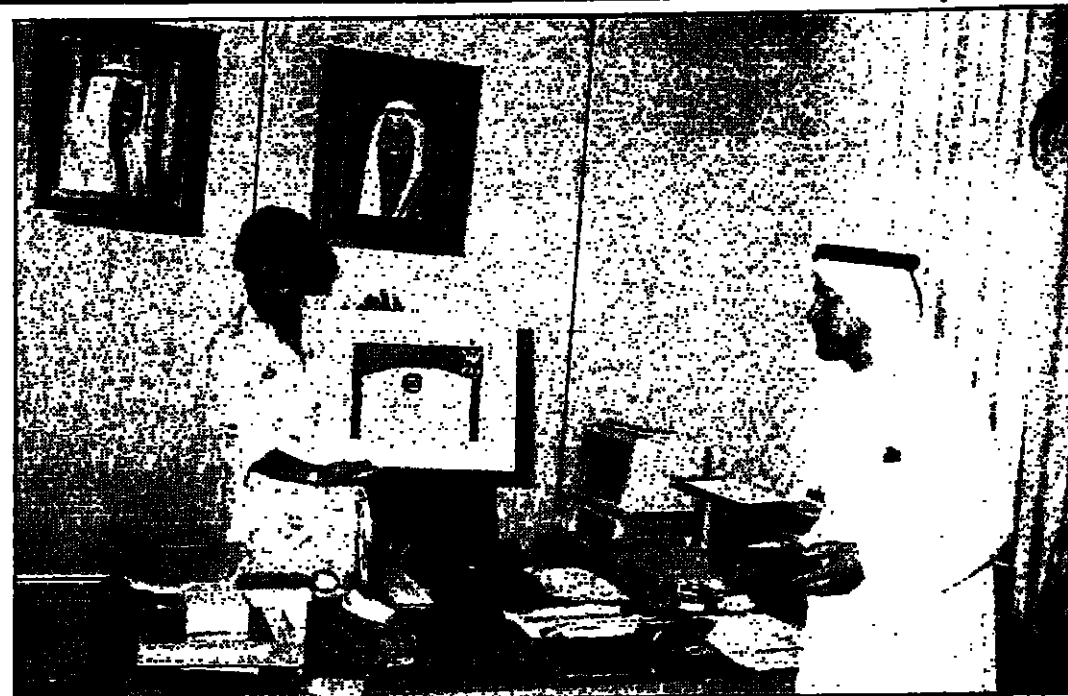
Electronics institute to be built in Riyadh

RIYADH, June 26, (KUNA): The general organisation for technical education and vocational training is currently building the first specialised electronics secondary technical institute in Riyadh at a cost of SR121 million and with the help of Japanese expertise, it was reported today.

Centres

In a statement to Al Riyadh newspaper, Muhammad Suleiman Al Dhahlan, the organisation's deputy governor said specialisations in the institute, which represents one of the organisation's largest projects include cybernetics and audio-visual electronics.

The Jeddah-based Saudi Gazette, which published Al Dhahlan's statement quoted him as saying that work is



Dr Sabah receiving the committee's gift.

KAC to operate 455 additional flights

ABDULLA AL NAFISI, the public relations director of the Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC), has said that the KAC will run 455 additional flights during the summer period. There will be 186 additional flights to Cairo, 121 to Istanbul, 66 to Amman, 21 to Damascus, 13 to Nice and 9 to Larnaca.

He added that the KAC had made comprehensive changes to its services, making it a more competitive airline. One such service is the "flying chef", who asks passengers about the kind of food they want and distributes questionnaires about in-flight meals, many of which are popular Kuwaiti and Palestinian dishes. The KAC has also begun screening information films about the route of the flight and places of geographical interest.

Feature films and other programmes will also be shown. Other services include the provision of wheelchairs for handicapped passengers and the distribution of gifts to children on board.

Al Nafisi reminded passengers to check in at least two hours before the departure of their flight to facilitate the necessary pre-flight procedures and, to reconfirm reservations at least 72 hours before travelling to check that their flight has not been cancelled.

UK envoy

KUWAIT'S Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received yesterday the British Ambassador to Kuwait, Peter Hinchcliffe and they held cordial and friendly talks.

Educational committee members honoured

DR Rasha Al Sabah, Kuwait University's vice-rector for social service and information, has held a ceremony to honour members of the educational committee at the Centre for Social Services and Further Education, to mark the end of the educational season 1987/88.

She delivered a speech expressing appreciation for members' efforts and support, which had ensured success for the various symposia and lectures held. The committee members were then presented with letters of gratitude and gifts.

Dr Sabah received a chart from the members of the committee showing the various topics covered by the lectures and symposia held during the season.

Cabinet welcomes Toronto summit's stand on Gulf war, Palestinian issue

IN its weekly meeting, the Kuwait cabinet, chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, Al Sabah reviewed the outcome of the summit of the seven major industrial nations held recently in Toronto, Canada, and welcomed its stance toward the Palestinian problem and ending the Iraq-Iran war, through the implementation of UN resolution 598.

While the cabinet hails this positive gesture, it called on these countries to translate words into actions, in an effort to establish peace and stability worldwide.

The cabinet got acquainted with the message received by HH the Amir from Sudanese Deputy Chairman of the State Council Idris Al Bana on bilateral relations.

Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Athbi briefed the council on the visit by Sudanese

Minister of Mining and Energy Bakri Ahmed Adel and the talks he held with the guest minister.

Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamed also briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the third meeting of GCC information ministers which was held last week in Riyadh.

After that, the Council of Ministers listened to a report by Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khalid on the results of his tour which included Switzerland, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Bulgaria, during which he took part at the international economic forum which was held in Geneva to strengthen ties between the GCC and the EEC.

The Crown Prince and Premier also examined the outcome of the last meeting of the Civil Service Commission on implementing resolutions

related to plans and programmes of administrative reform and the cabinet listened to an explanation from State Minister Al Rashid on obstacles obstructing the implementation of these programmes.

Convention

The Council agreed that Kuwait hosts the fifth session of Islamic Fiqh (jurisprudence) convention from Dec 17 to 22 and decided to earmark KD120,000 for this purpose.

The cabinet got acquainted with decisions of the 11th meeting of the Supreme Council for Planning on the five-year development plan and the state budget, and discussed a report by the supreme committee responsible for evaluating the education system in Kuwait which gave the committee's perspective on examining problems facing education and means to remedy them.

Technical manpower needed

THE Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan today announced that a number of the ministry's departments require some technical manpower to fill existing vacancies and the ministry would provide these requirements in accordance with a study prepared by the ministry.

Directory

On outstanding telephone bills, he said, the ministry offers an installment facility on large outstanding bills. However, subscribers would be taken to court if they ignored appeals by the ministry to settle their dues. To encourage people to acquire telephones, the minister said the KD500 deposit for non-Kuwaitis working in the private sector had been discontinued. This was applicable only if the subscriber did not ask for the automatic trunk call facility.

To solve problems of inquiries on 101, the ministry will dis-

tribute a large number of new telephone directories to the subscribers.

A new system will be used to include names in the directory by using first the family name. Moreover, the ministry decided to divide the 101 enquiries among the four governorates and expected that this step would greatly reduce the pressure and provide for quick services. He added that new services would shortly be provided to telephone subscribers and those willing to acquire such services would have to bear additional charges.

Study

Al Sharhan said the ministry is currently undertaking a study aimed at improving work at the

postal department and solving the problems of delay in delivery of post. He announced that the ministry is planning to improve all its services by utilising latest technological developments. He disclosed that the ministry had collected about KD54.7 million as service charges during the current fiscal year till May 31 (the fiscal year begins on July 1st) compared to KD60.2 million collected last fiscal year.

Regarding the proposed railway between the GCC states, the Minister said the project is still under consideration. He said, that provisional estimates of the project are still not convincing to some member states and a serious study on the economic feasibility of the project is underway.

KTV producing cartoon movies

THE cinema department at the Ministry of Information is currently producing a number of cartoon movies aimed at enhancing viewers awareness of various issues.

The director of the programmes department at Kuwait TV Bahder Al Mudhaf announced that new movies will represent an important development of movie making in Kuwait. The Ministry of Information, he said, provides modern technologies to the cartoon sections.

The new movies would be introduced to viewers shortly and are prepared by a work team of the cinema monitoring department in collaboration with local and Arabic technicians.

Mudhaf disclosed that KTV programme two will show a British serial next Wednesday entitled "Edge of Life". The serial in four parts, will focus on treatment of pre-mature babies.

Kuwait TV will be showing an Arabic drama from a story written by the popular Arab scholar Najib Mahfouth. The serial is in 15 parts of 45 minutes each and depicts life conditions from 1945 till 1975.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received Sheikh Jaber Al Ali.

Amiri cable

HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to President of Madagascar on the occasion of his country's National Day.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Egypt was always with Arabs

THE recent and past history of Egypt provides ample evidence that that country has always been at the front lines with the Arabs when it was needed, a Kuwaiti newspaper said yesterday.

In an editorial, Al Rai Al Aam said "Egypt is in no need for somebody's testimony as its whole history is the proof." The paper did not disclose the motive behind its front-page editorial comment.

While praising Egyptian stance toward the Arab world, including its support to Algeria in its national war of the 50s and the 60s and its support to the Palestinians, the paper said there is no need to ruin the reputation of Egypt.

"The current stage is no longer appropriate for political excitations because the peril is high and the challenges are no longer threatening one country, but the whole Arab nation," the daily concluded.

Liberation of Majnoon

A KUWAITI daily said yesterday that in the face of Iranian insistence to continue the war, an Iraqi military decisiveness is the only alternative to end the nearly eight-year-old conflict.

The Arabic-language Al-Watani, in a front-page editorial, said that "we look at every Iraqi victory from the viewpoint that it is the beginning of the end to this destructive and crazy war."

"The decisive Iraqi victories put Iranian leaders, whoever they are, before a sun-like fact that they only have two alternatives: peace or defeat and no third way except more killings of Iranian lives," the paper stressed.

The paper was commenting on yesterday's 10-hour long Iraqi offensive on the oil-rich islands of Majnoon, occupied by Iran in 1984.

The Iraqi National Guards and the third battalion of the Iraqi Army destroyed bridges linking the islands with Iran, stroke Iranian lines, bombed and skillfully diminished the presence of the Iranians on those islands. A large number of Iranians were taken captives as well.

"And here comes the liberation of Majnoon islands to add another new chapter to the chapters of the heroic Iraqi people in this bloody fight," the paper commented.

Drug smuggling declines by 40pc in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH, June 26, (KUNA): Drug smuggling cases have shown a remarkable decline of 40 per cent in 1987 compared with the previous year as a result of the implementation of death penalty for convicted drug smugglers and traffickers, Interior Minister Prince Naif Bin Abdulaziz has said.

In a statement telecast last night by Saudi Television, on the occasion of the kingdom's observance of the international Anti-Drug Day, which falls today, Prince Naif referred to the marked drop in drug smuggling activities in the kingdom and the subsequent decline in the use of narcotics.

Crime
In 1987, Prince Naif said overall crime rate in the kingdom noticed a decrease of 12 per cent compared with the figure of 1986.

Prince Naif reaffirmed the kingdom's determination to fight the drug menace mercilessly, in line with Islamic teachings, which forbids such criminal and destructive acts.

Prince Naif highlighted the kingdom's programmes and plans for the anti-narcotic campaign and cited the kingdom's close co-operation with brotherly and friendly nations in this connection.

Supporting
On regional and international levels, he said the kingdom has been supporting the concerned anti-drug bodies in their missions and activities.

On the domestic front, the kingdom in the framework of wise directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz has

reinforced capabilities and potentials of the Saudi security forces to do a good job in this respect.

Prince Naif said the kingdom had signed the 1961 convention on drugs, the amended convention on drugs of 1972 protocol and the 1971 convention on mental effects.

He referred to various efforts of the Saudi Interior Ministry and its affiliated departments and other concerned bodies in the field of combating the drug menace.

"We are looking forward to the day when the entire world is free from the drug menace," he said.

'Firdous Rambo' trial on July 7

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court set July 7 for hearings into allegations against an accused Farraj N. infamously known as "Firdous Rambo" who shot dead a man and held his own family members hostage in his house in Firdous area.

The interrogation of 37-year-old Farraj, an employee of the Ministry of Communications is complete. He has been charged with killing a man and slightly wounding a boy, threatening to shoot security forces who surrounded his house. He is also charged with possessing a gun and ammunition illegally, using force against public servants and shooting at employees. The prosecution will demand the death sentence.

The hostage ordeal lasted several days before Farraj voluntarily surrendered to the police. He was referred to the psychiatric hospital.

GCC predicted to become an effective third force in Gulf

WASHINGTON, June 26, (KUNA): A prominent scholar predicts that the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) "offer hope for the organisation's survival and evolution as an effective third force in the Gulf region besides Iran and Iraq."

R.K. Ramazani, a professor at the University of Virginia and an expert on Iranian and Gulf affairs, draws this conclusion in a major new book on the GCC and its record since its inception in 1981.

The book, entitled, "The Gulf Cooperation Council — record and analysis," predicts that the GCC "is bound to help the creation of a more stable regional order in the longer-run."

Designed
Ramazani, also the author of "revolutionary Iran: challenge and response in the Middle East," says that the Gulf Cooperation "may eventually aid the realisation of the long-cherished goal of all the local

states to maintain Gulf security themselves, without foreign military intervention."

Besides providing a balanced analysis of the genesis and function of the GCC, Ramazani says his new book has been designed to serve as a tool for further research on the GCC by combining statistical data, a chronology of developments, and an annotated bibliography in Western and Arabic languages in addition to 122 documents organised topically.

Ramazani's book is introduced by Sultan Bin Mohamed Al Qasbi, a member of the Federal Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and the Ruler of Sharjah. In his foreword to the book, this Arab scholar and ruler eloquently places the long-term goal of creating an Arab confederation among the GCC states within the wider context of the quest for unity in the Arab world.

According to Ramazani's book, the GCC was founded "as

a vehicle of protective cooperation among the six member states ... to contain the spread of the Iran-Iraq war."

Helped

But he points out the fact that the tradition of cooperation among the GCC states dates back to at least a decade before the eruption of the Iranian revolution and the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war.

On the Iran-Iraq war, the author says that although the GCC's collective diplomacy has failed so far to end the Iran-Iraq war, "It has helped to at least contain it through its flexible tactics of disapprobation, mediation, and conciliation vis-a-vis the warring parties."

On the economic front, Ramazani notes, among other things, that "there have been notable accomplishments in investing through the Gulf organisation for investment, in abolishing internal customs and in establishing common external tariffs."

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Suspense in double trouble

By Fathima Ahmed

AAKHRI Manzil (The Last Destination) is in double trouble: casting and scripting, both are below par, spoiling what could have been an interesting saga of sibling rivalry and engrossing suspense.

For Moon Moon Sen, who plays Nisha and Kamini, twins in Aakhri Manzil, it seems to be the penultimate stop on the way to annihilation. The delectable Sen is prim, proper and well-groomed. You can admire the mother of two children's fabulous figure and engaging smile but when it comes to acting, she hams it up with her wooden, blank expressionless face.

The role of Nisha demands sympathy — none is forthcoming for Moon Moon Sen in the role. Neurotic Nisha, a distributed young girl seeking an identity, comes across as a woman on a leash, led by the director from the psychiatrist's couch into the arms of the doctor. None of the inner turmoil is evoked by the actress — she seems in fine shape, doing her daily chores in her antiques shop.

As Kamini, the actress was required to ooze oomph which seems to be in short supply, despite the skimpy costumes, garish make-up and weird hairdos. Her attempts to seduce men turn you off; you can't blame the men for spurning her loaded suggestions. Kamini is there for the takers — and some use her; which man wouldn't? And then they drop her like a hot potato in favour of innocence — Nisha, who is too busy popping pills in her mouth

to notice the attention she is getting.

A pretentious murder mystery, Aakhri Manzil barely manages to scratch the surface of suspense. Who dunnit? Nisha or Kamini? Both have alibis. Kamini's alibi is none other than the chief minister who watches her performing on stage. Kamini runs a dance school. She has owlish traits — dancers practise at the dead of night too.

Nisha's alibi is an inspector investigating the murder case. The inspector, fashioned after the television private eye Colombo, looks scruffy, acts tough and rejoices after "solving" a non-mysterious case, put to rest by the psychiatrist.

The scriptwriter dilly-dallies with the idea of creating suspense, plays with police inefficiency (some scenes of police harassment are blown up by the "press", much to the dismay of the ageing DSP) and ends on a blaring sentimental note. The past, present and future of the twins — and Kamini's checked past — are also thrown in for good effect in the loosely scripted, poorly edited Aakhri Manzil. Maybe, it is the last stop for its makers.

Suspense is once again at stake in Hattya (Murder). Kirit Kumar's thriller about a deaf and dumb child's dilemma starts off on a credible note. The child is the only witness of two murders. The killers are not aware of his disability and are out to get him. The idea was good. But as with most Hindi films, it strays from the main theme, plunging headlong into romance and nostalgia, cajoling you to shed a bucketful of tears at the plight of the child,



Govinda: dancing to the director's tune

rescued by an aimless wanderer Sagar (Govinda). Once Sagar lifts the child from the garbage bin, the film falls into it. Thereafter Hattya becomes one man's crusade against the killers, known to everyone except the crusader.

As Govinda is said to be the newest dancing sensation in tinseltown, he has to gyrate hysterically, swing his hips systematically and do somersaults — in addition to romancing charming Neelam, who joins him in the singing-in-the-rain and dancing-in-the-night sequences. (There must be many nocturnal creatures in Bollywood) Govinda prances affectingly to Bappi Lahiri's plagiarised music. Neelam joins him with serenity.

In between the killer-hunting and lover's tiffs, Govinda sets aside a timetable for the drowning-in-drink numbers. So, you see a sozzled Govinda telling his woeful tale to a silent child (Neelam is in the background to sympathise); he sheds crocodile tears when the hapless kid is claimed by imposters; he gets into a jam and is jailed for beating up a policeman and flees from police custody to further complicate the confused theme. That Govinda is finally redeemed — and gets a ready-made family, child and Neelam, is the director's not so clever final touch.



Neelam: charming

Debonair Shashi Kapoor, minus his flab, looks rather dashing in Heera aur Patthar, an

earlier film recently released on video in Kuwait.

Heera aur Patthar debates the virtues of faith. In keeping with the 1970s tradition of filmmaking, it is peppered with seriocomic touches; the comic capers of Asrani in the sub-plot contrast sharply with the tragic rebellion of the hot-headed Shashi.

Shashi's atheism, we're told, is due to his mother's violent death, caused after visiting a holy shrine. His disbelief, and hatred, grows stronger, much to the dismay of his devout father, played by Bharat Bhushan. The rest of the film concentrates on reforming the rebel, instilling faith and belief in God. This was only natural.

Naturally, director Vijay Bhatt's resorts to every trick in the book to get a firm footing — for himself and his rebel hero. This, he does by employing the usual play — Shashi falls in love with a girl, played by Shahana Azmi. As luck would have it, she lives near the shrine. Thus, Shashi entranced by her, climbs the mountain to visit her (until now he was content to throw stones at the shrine's crystal clear impression in the lake). After taking the first step, the puzzle falls into place, but not before exposing the village landlord's conniving plots.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya. Tel: 471-2900.



Shabana Azmi plays a village belle in Heera aur Patthar



Shashi Kapoor: debonair



Moon Moon Sen: pretty picture

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Onam Festival
Theatres, Abbasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradayil — 2422973.

United Goans Centre
The UGC will hold their annual Summer Belle '88 contest on August 11. The committee will host a gala event to mark the 10th anniversary of UGC.

German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on July 3, August 7 and September 4 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

YMCA

The YMCA will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

D'Aussel Association

The association will hold a social evening cum entertainment on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am

to 5pm; Henry 3291909/am, 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754 after 6pm.

ARTS

Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9am to 12 noon and 4 to 7pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

CINEMA

British Council

A children's film, Alice in Wonderland, based on Lewis Carroll's immortal story, will

be shown on June 29, (6 pm) and June 30 (10.30 am) at the British Council, Mansouriya. On a golden afternoon, young Alice, startled by a white rabbit, follows him and loses her footing and tumbles into a burrow — and enters the merry, topsy-turvy world of Wonderland. It is a blend of fantasy and music. Approximately 72 minutes. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

HOTELS

At the Sheraton

Nightly dine in the Hunt Room and with live music by the Trio Paradise. For lunch Hunt Room offers a la carte. Tarbouche on the Roof offers a selection of Lebanese cuisine in Al Hamba Night club every Sunday night; live entertainment by the World Machine band.

At the Continental

The Gardenia, open from 7am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialties. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

At the Holiday Inn

Choose your lucky star at the strawberry fair, now being held at the hotel. Fresh pastries and cakes (also take-away) featured in the Lobby Cafe.

At the Meridian

Al Fingan Tea Lounge features a selection of coffee, tea and juice. Live entertainment in the evenings is provided. Versailles is open daily for lunch and dinner featuring Continental cuisine. Business lunch with three choices daily also offered. Live entertainment in the evening.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



Farid Atresh stars in tonight's Arabic film on KTV1

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.30 Cartoons: Rahlat Haul Al Alam
10.00 Good Morning
10.15 Shams Al Khareef: Arabic serial, starring Tawfiq Abdul Hamid, Zizi Badawi, Suhair Barouni
11.00 News Summary
11.15 Ghaddan Tabda Al Hayat: featuring Hayat Al Fahd, Suad Abdullah, Ghanem Al Saleh
12.15 Treasures of the Gulf
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
2.30 Wamrat Al Ayyam: Arabic serial, starring Zizi Badawi
3.35 Bill and Sebastian: cartoons
4.20 Football: Mexico vs Tunis. Replay of match played during 1978 World Cup tournament.
6.00 Mama Anisa and Children
7.15 Alwan: hosted by Rolah Al Farah
7.45 Quran and Science: Alam Al Bahar. Prepared and presented by Dr. Ahmad Shawki Ibrahim
8.30 Souk Al Ghaz: daily serial, starring: Mohammad Saeed

Shirin, Zuhair
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Naar Duqqan: Arabic serial, starring: Kamal Shinnawi, Sherihan, Mustafa Fahmi
10.45 Ahlam Al Shabab: Arabic film, starring: Farid Atresh, Madiha Yusri, Tahya Karioka
12.15 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Wildfire: cartoons
6.30 Scuba World: diving adventure off the coast of countries in Central America
7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world and local events.

7.30 Mr. Belvedere: "The Thief." Starring: Christopher Hewett.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Murder, She Wrote: Jessica is involved in another exciting mystery. Starring: Angela Lansbury.
9.30 National Geographic: a look at landscapes — and natural beauty — around the world.
10.30 Pokerface: A series of bomb explosions occurred simultaneously, baffling authorities. Crawley is in charge.
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Angela Lansbury in Murder, She Wrote, 8.40 pm, KTV2

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 Science Journal
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Songs and Music
0915 Writers and Their Works
0930 Radio Magazine Supplement
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1100 Closedown
1:30 News on FM Service

Evening
2100 Opening
2102 Bits and Bytes
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2200 Facts About Zionism
2215 Magazine Special
2245 Daily Programme
2300 Pel Mall
2400 Closedown

FM Services

0800 Easy Listening
0830 News
0840 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Latin American Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Helter Skelter
2000 Pops
2130 News
2145 Pops
2200 Jazz Sound
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Music
0200 Closedown

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.15 am
Zuhr 11.51
Asr 3.25 pm
Maghreb 6.51
Isha 8.24

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Ahlan Pharmacy
Mutahada Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.
Mojil Pharmacy
Mojil Bldg., Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Ikhlal Pharmacy
Opp. Andalus, Beirut St.
Salamiya and Rumaithiya
Al Shifa Pharmacy
Hmoud Anjari Bldg., Salem Al Mubarak St.
Fahabehel and Ahmadi
Al Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanem Bldg., Dabbous St. Fheel
Jleeb Al Shiyoohk
Al Failaka Pharmacy
Opp. Police Stn., Main St.
Riqqai
Al Riqqai Pharmacy
Badar Al Sa'im Al Ali Bldg., No. 12
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

BBC World Services

0800 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio Newsnet
30 Religious Service
0100 News Summary followed by
After Henry
30 Four Stories by Elizabeth Bowes (ex 27th The Racing Game)
45 A Schubert Anthology
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Peoples' Choice
30 Science in Action
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Anything Goes
0400 Newswatch
30 Behind the Wall
45 Reflections
50 Waveguide
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Nature Notebook
45 Recording of the Week
0600 Newswatch
30 Pillars of British Society
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 From Cocaine to Cocaine
0800 World News
09 Reflections
15 Behind the Wall
30 Anything Goes
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Good Books
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Peoples' Choice
1000 News Summary followed by Pillars of British Society
30 The Vintage Chart Show

1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Sportsweek (ex 13th Tech Talk; 27th News Ideas)
25 (27th only) Book Choice
30 The Ken Bruce Show
1200 Radio Newsnet
15 Brain of Britain 1988
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Sportsweek (ex 6th Recording of the Week; 13th Anything Goes)
45 Sportsweek (ex 13th Anything Goes cont.; 27th Jazz Scene UK)
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News
45 6th and 13th Future Imperfect; 20th and 27th The Bishops Come to Lambeth
1500 Radio Newsnet
15 Pillars of British Society
45 Weber
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 6th and 13th Squaring the Triangle 20th and 27th Sportsweek
30 Sportsweek Contd. (ex 6th Big Bands — The Singers, 13th The A-Z of Hollywood)
45 The World Today
ALL TIMES GMT

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Beheten Qaul
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Islamiyat: Daur-e-Hazir
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Hamare Mehmaan
2100 Closedown

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
The Last Shark
Starring: James Francisco, Vicki Moro
Al Sahniya
Desperately Seeking Susan
Starring: Madonna
Al Hamra
Ayyam Fi London (Arabic)
Starring: Samira Tawfiq, Yusuf Shaban
Drive-In
Laila Al Kabz Ala Bakaiza
Wa Zaghloul (Arabic)
Starring: Suhair Babli, Issad Yunus
Fahabehel Open-Air
Maut Ki Ghati (Hindi)
Al Firdous
Johnny Ustad (Hindi)
Starring: Rajnikant, Sridevi
Al Fahabehel
Scaramouche
Al Jahra
Captain of Pilgrim
Granada
Jeremiah Johnson
Sulaibikhat
My Home on the Green Hills
Al Jleeb
Nokul Shehzada (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Mother Lode

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

My religion is a matter solely between my maker and myself — Mohandas Gandhi, Indian nationalist leader (1869-1948).

Communist Party conference

Russia's long and checkered history

By John-Thor Dahlburg

MOSCOW. (AP): Communist Party conferences were born under the czars, when outlawed Russian revolutionaries wanted to make quick, underground decisions. Stalin made party conferences a potent instrument to impose his ideas and crush his foes.

In all, there have been 18 past conferences. Conference decisions created Pravda, approved the nation's first five-year plan, ordered a purge and then filled holes in the Kremlin leadership left by bloody political repression.

Now, Mikhail Gorbachev has resurrected the institution of party conferences after a hiatus of 47 years to try to set his stamp even more firmly on the 20-million-member party he heads.

Tomorrow, some 5,000 communists from across the Soviet Union will meet in Moscow for the 19th party conference to consider recommendations designed to make political life and their party more responsive to its membership.

Based on historical precedent, the communists gathered at the Kremlin could do almost anything. One delegate, historian Yuri N. Afanasyev, said earlier this month he has no idea how the conference's sessions will proceed.

Discuss

Only one sentence in the current party rules spells out the role of the conference, saying it may "discuss urgent questions of party policy" — through congresses, the more formal party convocations usually held every five years.

"Historically, the party conference is one of the most democratic institutions in party life, one that is called on to resolve both current problems and ones that unexpectedly confront the party," Soviet historian E. Guseinov wrote this year. "Practically any of the issues dealt with by a congress, including personnel matters, can fall within the authority of a conference."

Guseinov, writing in the government newspaper Izvestia, said the revival of the conference represents a return to the ideals of Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin because a conference is more unstructured, and its debate more unfettered, than a party congress.

Such, however, has not always been the case. Since 1905, when the first conference was held by Russian revolutionaries at an exile base in

Tammerfors, Finland, the meetings have been "important milestones" in the history of Soviet communism, to use party theoretician Oleg Khlebnyuk's phrase.

But party leaders thought so little of the institution — or perhaps so feared the consequences of its more open debate — that they twice eliminated any mention of the conference from the party rules. Between 1934 and 1939 and from 1952 until 1966, communists had no mechanism for summoning delegates to a party conference.

But in the early years, as the Russian revolutionaries plotted the overthrow of Czar Nicholas II, they held seven party conferences between 1905 and 1917, in places ranging from Paris to Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Those meetings, often called by rival leftist factions, were in theory not as important as full-scale party congresses, but they took major steps. In 1912, the Prague conference voted to create an all-Russian workers' newspaper, which became the present-day party gazette Pravda.

Condemning

After Lenin's Bolsheviks seized power in 1917, they held nine conferences, between 1919 and 1929, that took actions often as far-reaching as the decisions of party congresses.

The 1924 conference, held days before the death of Lenin, passed a resolution condemning Leon Trotsky and his followers with only three dissenting votes. It was a major blow to Trotsky, the archfoe of Stalin later expelled from both the party and country and murdered in exile.

The 16th conference, in 1929, approved the first five-year plan, the keystone of the Moscow-managed socialist economy created under Stalin, and ordered a purge of party ranks that resulted in 116,000 expulsions and presaged the mass political repression of the late 1930s.

In an irony of history, Gorbachev is expected to ask this party conference to reverse the course set at the last such meeting, which took place in Moscow in February 1941, as concern mounted over the growing threat of war with Nazi Germany.

At the urging of Stalin's henchman, Georgy Malenkov, who died in disgrace earlier this year, the Communist Party delegates ordered all party organizations to appoint secretaries to oversee the management of industry and transport.

Hanoi's economy faltering

Vietnam needs strong medicine

By Paul Wedel

BANGKOK. (UPI): Vietnam's leadership knows that the country's faltering economy needs strong medicine, but the selection of an ageing conservative as its new prime minister shows how hard and slow the cure will be.

The Communist Party chose Do Muoi, 71, to head the government in its battle against a litany of woes: 700 per cent inflation, serious food shortages, uncontrolled population growth, unemployment and international isolation caused by Vietnam's continued occupation of Cambodia.

In response to urges that seem to come more from traditional Confucian respect of age than Marxist ideology, the party simply took the most senior man available.

Problem

Passed over was the relatively young economic reformer, Vo van Kiet, 66, who had served as acting prime minister following the death of Prime Minister Pham Hung in March. Although Muoi was vice prime minister in charge of key economic ministries, the selection of the conservative communist appears to contrast with the political and economic reforms being pushed by top party leader Nguyen van Linh.

But it has become clear that the Communist Party, the only

organisation capable of attacking the problems, is itself the country's first and biggest problem.

The choice of Muoi is likely to reassure the party's conservatives who fear socialist ideology is being forgotten in the rush to reform.

The tough disciplinarian may also be necessary to cut away at the corruption and inefficiency of the party bureaucracy.

"Many deviant and degenerate elements have taken advantage of loopholes in our management system to make personal profits," Muoi wrote in an angry article last year.

"They have corrupted many cadres, party members and state employees," he wrote.

Linh's economic reforms have scored some successes, but most have been stifled by mid-level party bureaucrats who fear their power will slip away in any drive for accountability and efficiency.

Assistance

The selection of Muoi, who has been active in promoting relations with Vietnam's socialist allies, also emphasizes Vietnam's dependence on \$2 billion a year in assistance from the Soviet Union, even though Moscow appears increasingly impatient with the financial drain.

The occupation of Cambodia and mistrust over the more than 1,700 American Mias from the Vietnam war mean that the end of a US economic boycott still may be years away.

By Philip Shehadi

A SERIES of Iraqi victories over Iran on the battlefield has boosted morale in Gulf Arab states but is unlikely to herald an early end to the war now in its eighth year, officials and diplomats said.

Baghdad said on Saturday it had recaptured the oil-rich Majnoon islands in its southern marshlands held by Iran since 1985. It was Iran's third major defeat in as many months.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein called the Majnoon the last major hurdle before a final Iraqi triumph, and Kuwaiti newspapers yesterday concurred that Iran's war effort was doomed.

Refusal

"Each Iraqi victory brings an end to the war closer," said one daily. "Iran cannot avoid defeat."

But diplomats and officials said that while Iran's military strength had clearly been sapped by economic problems, shortages of advanced arms and internal policy rifts, a final military victory by Baghdad still

appeared remote.

Iraq may succeed in ridding its soil of all Iranian troops, but that was not enough to bring Iran to its knees, they said. Tehran has, meanwhile, showed no sign of softening its refusal to accept a ceasefire while Saddam rules.

"Iraq's recent successes have raised morale tremendously both in Iraq and in the neighbouring Gulf states," said a senior Gulf Arab official who asked not to be named. "But this does not mean that an end to the war is in sight."

Welcomed

The official told Reuters the war was likely to continue for another two to four years, but on a reduced scale, "a sort of war of attrition."

His remarks were echoed by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi, who said last week the war could not be expected to end overnight.

"But current developments ...

Iraqi victories boost morale of Arab states

End to Gulf war not yet in sight



Saddam Hussein

lead one to believe that the intensity of the war has begun to lessen now compared to what it was two years ago," he told Austrian television.

Kuwait and other Gulf Arab backers of Iraq have welcomed Iran's setbacks as signs that its revolutionary zeal, seen as a threatening and destabilising force, may be on the wane.

Some Kuwaitis go so far as to say that the revolutionary gover-

ment in Tehran and its support for the war may not outlive Iran's ailing 85-year-old spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

"The countdown for (an end to) the war and the Iranian regime have begun, and the end to both has become near or rather imminent," said another Kuwaiti daily last week.

Vowed

"The Iranian leadership would not be able to justify peace to its own people even if Khomeini dies," the Gulf Arab official said. "A new leader would need a couple of years to consolidate his power before he could enter into any peace negotiations."

Newly appointed Iranian military supreme Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has vowed to pursue the war and said he

needs three to four months to reorganise the armed forces, now split between the regular Army and the Revolutionary Guards.

The sources said Iraq had shown strength and ingenuity in pushing the Iranians first out of the southern Faw peninsula in April and then the Salammah marshlands in May.

But it may have more trouble pursuing the war into Iranian territory to impose peace by force. The diplomats said this risked stiffening Iranian morale and sustaining heavy losses from Iran's larger Army.

Offensive

They said Baghdad would think twice before sending its troops across the borders into Iran. But it may well back further attacks by anti-Khomeini forces such as that by Iranian National Liberation Army last week, whose Iraq-backed troops occupied the border town of Mehran for several days last

weeks. The sources did not rule out the possibility that Iran might launch a new offensive later this year after a reorganisation of its armed forces and possible new arms purchases from North Korea and other suppliers.

"My guess is that Iran will come back with a vengeance in the autumn," said one Western diplomat.

Prospects for a global arms embargo against Iran appear remote, although Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy has reiterated US support during a current regional tour.

Moscow opposes the embargo, designed to pressure Iran into accepting a UN-order ceasefire, as impractical.

The sources did not rule out new missile strikes or Iranian-backed sabotage against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, Iraq's main Gulf backers.

Kuwaiti oil installations were the target of repeated missile strikes last year blamed on Iran, while pro-Iranian militants are suspected of having carried out bombings this year in Kuwait.



Attempts to emasculate Malaysia's courts

By Susan Robinson

KUALA LUMPUR. (UPI): A SPECIAL tribunal convenes Wednesday to decide whether Malaysia's top judge should be fired for misconduct in a move lawyers and opposition legislators view as the climax of a campaign to emasculate the judiciary.

The six-judge panel, which will report to the king, will hear government allegations that Mohamed Salleh Abbas, lord president of the supreme court, sought out at least five occasions to discredit Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's administration and is unfit to remain as head of the judiciary.

Legal and political observers say the unprecedented action against the country's senior judge — in hearing closed to the public — sets the stage for a showdown in the widening rift between Mahathir and the courts that could have serious consequences for the balance of power in Malaysia's British-derived system of parliamentary democracy.

Intimidate

"The present development will further affect public confidence in the doctrine of separation of powers, the administration of justice and the independence of the judiciary, which is fundamental to law and order," the bar council said.

The opposition Democratic Action Party said the bid to oust Salleh was "a deliberate, calculated and orchestrated move by the prime minister to intimidate the judiciary."

Mahathir has stepped up his attacks on the courts in the past 18 months, apparently riled by several decisions which went against the government in public-interest suits brought by his opponents.

Mahathir blasted the courts for usurping the powers of elected lawmakers by encroaching into areas that should be the

prerogative of the executive and legislative arms of government.

In March parliament hastily passed constitutional amendments that effectively forfeited the judiciary's role as the sole arbiter in the legal process to legislative fiat.

The prime minister said the judiciary's position and limits had to be clearly defined so that judges did not stray from the intent and spirit of parliament's laws through their own interpretations based on laws of natural justice or British and Commonwealth legal precedents.

Independent

"An independent judiciary that is not subservient to the legislature or the executive is a bastion of parliamentary democracy," said Chandra Muzaffar, head of the social reform group Aliran.

"In the last few months, a political leadership with dictatorial tendencies has mounted one assault after another upon this bastion of democratic rule," he said.

Parliament's action prompted Salleh to write King Mahmood Iskandar on behalf of some 20 Kuala Lumpur judges expressing concern at Mahathir's attacks on the judiciary.

The prime minister said the king "took exception" to the letter and initiated procedures for a tribunal to dismiss Salleh for misbehaviour.

Revive

Salleh, suspended from duty May 26, asserts Mahathir wants him sacked for allegedly showing "partiality" to the premier's political foes in a series of cases stemming from a Feb 4 ruling in the high court that outlawed the United Malays National Organisation, Malaysia's dominant political group.

That ruling ignited a scramble for UMNO's loyalties and considerable assets.

The action against Salleh came after he had decided a full nine-

member supreme court would hear an appeal by 11 dissidents trying to revive UMNO.

The appeal was set for June 13 but now has been indefinitely postponed. Its outcome is critical for Mahathir, who is facing an uphill battle to anchor his reconstituted version of the group, called New UMNO. If the appeal ruled the old UMNO should be restored as a legal entity, he and his allies could be left isolated and without vital support from the Malay constituency.

Lawyers and jurists expressed grave concern at apparent discrepancies between Salleh's version and the official one of events surrounding his suspension.

They also have attacked the membership of the tribunal which is to hear Salleh's case. It is headed by the judge who is likely to succeed Salleh if he is fired.

BAHRAIN. (Reuters): Iran, battered by years of war and upheaval, appears incapable of sustaining a major offensive on land or sea, Gulf-based military experts said today.

They said Iran's new military supreme, parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, was likely to fail in his bid to reverse a series of defeats inflicted by Tehran's Gulf war foe Iraq.

"Rafsanjani spoke about new hit-and-run tactics after Iran failed to recapture Salammah earlier this month. But there are no new tactics, Iran cannot sustain a major attack," said one expert.

"Rafsanjani knows nothing about tactics or logistics. He is a politician. He has been given a job that a general in the Soviet Union or the United States would need 20 years of training for," he said.

"I am sure the Iranians rue the day they routed out the former Shah's officer elite — they could do with it now," he added.

Streamline Following his June 2 appointment Rafsanjani said he planned to streamline the command and control of the Iranian Armed Forces. Since then there has been nothing to show he has succeeded.

Yesterday, Iraq recaptured the Majnoon islands tapping into the world's biggest oilfield, straddling the southern border between Iraq and Iran.

Iraq occupied Majnoon more than three years ago. Following the Iraqi offensive, Tehran said its troops had fallen back to new defensive positions.

For Gulf war watchers the tacit Iranian admission of defeat at Majnoon has a familiar ring.

The trend began on April 17 when Iraqi troops pushed Iran east across the Shatt Al Arab waterway and out Iraq's southern Faw peninsula which they

had occupied for more than two years.

Since then, buoyed by its battlefield successes, Iraq has scored a series of major battlefield wins against Iran.

For the first time since the early days of the war, Iran is on the defensive.

Weakened by nearly eight years of fighting Iran now lacks the military cohesion necessary to fight a modern war, the analysts said.

Problems

"One of the biggest problems the Iranians have is the shortage of good staff officers," said a military expert.

"Wars are won or lost in the rear echelons where the planning is carried out. To sustain a war or even a serious battle, you need good staff — Iran doesn't have the top military people it now needs."

"The Iranians have plenty of cannon fodder but very little else," he said.

"When it comes to a major operation on land or sea Iran just does not have the logistics it needs. The naval exercises they hold every now and then are only designed to boost morale and make the Gulf states twitchy," said a military source.

"I don't know why the West has so many ships in the Gulf any more. It came to a punch-up the Omani Navy is more than a match for the Iranians," he said.

The biggest guns in the Omani Navy are its Exocet-equipped Province class fast attack craft, while the ageing backbone on Iran's Navy are two nearly 20-year-old frigates, the Alborz and Alvand.

While the land war is confined to Iraqi and Iranian forces, the conflict at sea has drawn in the navies of a handful of Western nations, anxious to keep the sea lanes free and to protect from attack at least some of the merchant ships plying the Gulf.

More than 50 warships and support vessels, with more than 20,000 men, remain deployed in the region at levels which have not markedly changed in recent months, military officials of the nations maintaining Gulf operations said.

Sporadic attacks on oil tankers by hit-and-run Iranian speedboats have continued — the last was on June 14 — and the threat posed by land-based Iranian Silkworm missiles and mines continues.

The United States maintains the largest foreign military presence in the area. In the past 11 months its ships have escorted 62 convoys through the Gulf in operations that began in July 1987.

The US force consists of 29 warships, six of them wooden-hulled Vietnam war vintage minesweepers.

The British patrol force includes a destroyer, two frigates, a fleet auxiliary ship and three minesweepers.

Minesweeping Britain on Friday said it was forming a joint minesweeping force in the Gulf to be headed by a British officer.

The task force would consist of three British ships, one Dutch and one Belgian. Armed Forces Minister of State Ian Stewart told the British Parliament.

France has two frigates and a minesweeper in the Gulf and an aircraft carrier, two frigates, two minesweepers and a support ship in the Gulf of Oman.

Italy has three frigates, two minesweepers and a support vessel in the strategic waterway — a reduction of two ships since the beginning of the year.

Rome says the force may be reduced again if the threat to merchant traffic in the area eases. The Soviet Union is less public about the size of its fleet in the region, although it is said to number about six ships.

Presidential plebiscite

Chile's opposition convinced victory within its grasp

By Tim Frasca

SANTIAGO, Chile: Opponents of continued military rule in Chile are increasingly convinced that a victory in the coming presidential plebiscite is within their grasp.

But as the opposition's momentum builds, so does the

air of confrontation.

In early February, 15 political parties favouring an immediate return to democracy formed a coalition to oppose Chile's long-time strong man in the "yes-or-no" referendum expected this fall. The opposition's strategy is to register at least three-quarters of Chile's 8-1/2 million potential voters, in the hope they will vote "no" against the single candidate likely to be chosen by the ruling junta — Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

So far, the opposition's success has been surprising. It has pulled in nearly five million people, and new voters are signing up at the rate of nearly half a million a month.

Although the four commanders-in-chief, constituting the junta have not yet chosen their candidate, few Chileans doubt General Pinochet will the nominee. The general has been busily campaigning for months. And the entire state apparatus is preparing for a massive blitz to drum up support for the "yes" position. For example, Pinochet has been dedicating bridges and other public works and giving away titles to subsidised state housing.

Under the 1980 Constitution, the vote must occur sometime before next February. (Junta members have indicated they plan to hold it in October or November.) Should the "no" votes prevail, Pinochet would remain President and commander-in-chief of the armed forces for one year, while free and open

elections were organized and held.

But top government and military officials warn of possible military intervention if things don't go their way.

In an interview last month with the pro-government paper El Mercurio, Defence Minister Gen. Patricio Carvajal, said: "A triumph of the opposition would mean a centre-left government which would eventually fall into the hands of the extreme left."

If we are faced with the same circumstances as on Sept. 11, 1973 (the date of the military coup against Socialist President Salvador Allende), the result will be the same — the public will ask the armed forces to intervene."

"The armed forces are not simple observers," Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez echoed.

Meanwhile, independent polls consistently show Pinochet going down to defeat. The latest, conducted by the Roman Catholic Church's Centre for Contemporary Studies, show the "no" position leading by some 20 percentage points in the major cities, with a large bloc of voters still undecided. For example, here in the capital, "yes" received 26 per cent; "no" 44 per cent. In Concepcion, "yes" received 18 per cent; "no" 43 per cent.

Significantly, the poll also registers a sharp rise in the number who believe the "no" vote will actually triumph.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1697 — Elector Augustus of Saxony is named king of Poland, succeeding John III.
- 1795 — British forces land at Quiberon to aid revolt in Brittany.
- 1801 — Cairo surrenders to a British force.
- 1857 — Massacre of Cawnpore, India, where British soldiers and male residents are executed after promise of safe conduct by the Indians.
- 1858 — China signs treaty with France, opening China to further commerce with the West.
- 1877 — Russian forces cross Danube River in war against Turkey.
- 1929 — Kemal Ataturk suppresses communist propaganda in Turkey.
- 1932 — A constitution is proclaimed in Siam (Thailand).
- 1940 — Soviet Union invades Romania during World War II after King Carol refuses to cede Besarabia and Bukovina.
- 1943 — US bombers attack German-occupied city of Athens, Greece, in World War II.
- 1944 — Allied forces take Cherbourg, France, in World War II.
- 1946 — Foreign Ministers of Britain, United States, Soviet Union and France transfer Dodecanese Islands from Italy to Greece, and areas of northern Italy to France.
- 1950 — UN Secretary-General Trygve Lie urges members of United Nations to assist South Korea in repelling North Korea attacks; US President Harry S. Truman orders Air Force and Navy into Korean conflict.
- 1972 — Northern Ireland enjoys first day of peace in almost three years as Irish Republican Army begins ceasefire.

By Keith Grant

IXTAPALUCA, Mexico: The June rains herald a five-month nightmare in IxtapalUCA, a crowded, squalid slum on the eastern fringes of Mexico City.

Celia Valbuena Gomez, who lives there and has 11 children, expressed a general foreboding. When the rains come, she said, the people of IxtapalUCA are blackened by mud that covers everything and everybody.

For the slum dwellers, desperate for water, it is a cruel irony that when the rains come, they bring no relief. The downpour turns the streets into a vast thick muddy soup, a breeding-ground for disease.

Some five million people live in IxtapalUCA and other slums that over the past 25 years have sprung up on the long-dried up bed of Lake Texcoco, forming an outgrowth of the Mexican capital's gigantic metropolis.

IxtapalUCA, Chimalhuacan and Chalco are among the newer of these outlying slum

No relief for the world's 'biggest slum'

Irony of rains in Mexico City

towns, sprawling over more than 100 square miles (260 sq km).

Carlos Salinas de Gortari, presidential candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in elections in July told residents of Chalco recently he knew their problems.

"Chalco is suffering shortages of education, health, housing, and water, and as a consequence a lack of security," he said.

But his promises to improve the quality of life there did not impress the slum dwellers in his audience.

"They laid out flowers the day he came, and we heard a lot of promises, but nothing changes here," said Andrea Gonzalez, who moved near the

capital from Puebla seven years ago.

Health workers report difficult conditions. Not many people actually die of starvation, "but the conditions are appalling," said Alfonso Lopez, director of Mexfam, a private family planning group that runs around 24 clinics in slum areas.

In IxtapalUCA, many dogs sift through fly-ridden garbage and under-nourished children play around sewage-filled ditches in what is generally reckoned to be the world's biggest slum.

"Gastroenteritis is rife, here, and when the cold weather comes everyone suffers respiratory problems," said Dr David Vasquez, who runs a Mexfam clinic in IxtapalUCA and also works as a doctor in an area where basic services are virtually nil.

There is no sewage disposal, because the dried lake bed will not absorb liquid. No water is piped in and IxtapalUCans have to traipse across the Puebla motorway to fill up from lorries.

But they say the "water mafias," private operators who truck in the water, charge exorbitant fees.

In one rudimentary local school, 320 children attend class in rooms with brick walls and a mud floor. There is no money to finish the building.

"The government pays our salaries and buys the books, but they can't agree who is responsible for the building," said Valeria Santiago, deputy director of the school.

She said months were lost in wrangling with the Mexico state government in Toluca, 40 miles (64 km) away, and the federal government. Finally, the IxtapalUCA municipality granted land titles but no money has been forthcoming to finish the building.

The teachers earn a basic 95,000 pesos (42 dollars) a month. They barely get by on beans and tortillas, and seldom have meat.

IxtapalUCA authorities have come round offering to install water and electricity, but at a price few can afford.

Each family was asked to put up about 65 dollars for electricity and 110 dollars for water and were told that prices would be doubled if they didn't pay up by the end of May.

"If they are going to double the charge, we'd rather stay without light," said Mathilde Osorio Tlacuapa, who pointed out that their power supply, though fragile, was at least free.

A vast network of rickety poles carrying wires tapped illegally and dangerously into the power grid are visible. Many slum dwellers also steal water, rather than pay the "mafia."

The rains only bring more disease, especially typhoid and dysentery, to which children are especially vulnerable. Rabies is a constant danger.

At night gangs of youths roam the streets, often drugged on glue. Police seldom venture into these areas, where 1,000 assault and robbery cases are reported in an average month.

Officials admit there is no immediate solution for the slum areas. They have grown too fast for public services to cope: seven years ago Chalco and IxtapalUCA were open countryside.

Salinas de Gortari said in Chalco the only real solution is to discourage the massive influx from rural areas.

"It is better, socially and politically, more efficient and less costly to eliminate misery in rural areas and avoid massive migrations to the cities, than to try and resolve the misery and lack of services in urban areas," he said.



Children play around a stagnant pool in a Mexico City slum, exposed to diseases such as typhoid and dysentery.



Youngsters sit in a classroom of a makeshift school house partly roofed, with a dirt floor, in IxtapalUCA, a crowded, squalid slum on the eastern fringes of Mexico City.

Renovating a grand old city

By John Fullerton

SANAA, North Yemen: "A little that lasts is better than a great deal that is ended," says the Yemeni proverb.

It applies to North Yemen's struggle to retain the best of its past and seize 20th-century opportunities, including preserving and reviving the old city of Sanaa, a cluster of the world's oldest high-rise buildings among mosques, caravanserais, souks and gardens.

Rectangular or circular houses, built of basalt, brick and sandstone, rise 10 storeys above the plain, their walls covered in zigzag patterns of white gypsum and roofs crowned with towers and cornices.

Nearby a blindfold camel wearily reads his circle, driving an ancient press to produce sesame oil as the faithful gather in the Great Mosque, built in the lifetime of the Prophet Mohammed — who died in 632.

Some homes in the old city can be traced back 800 years and some of the mosques are more than 1,000 years old.

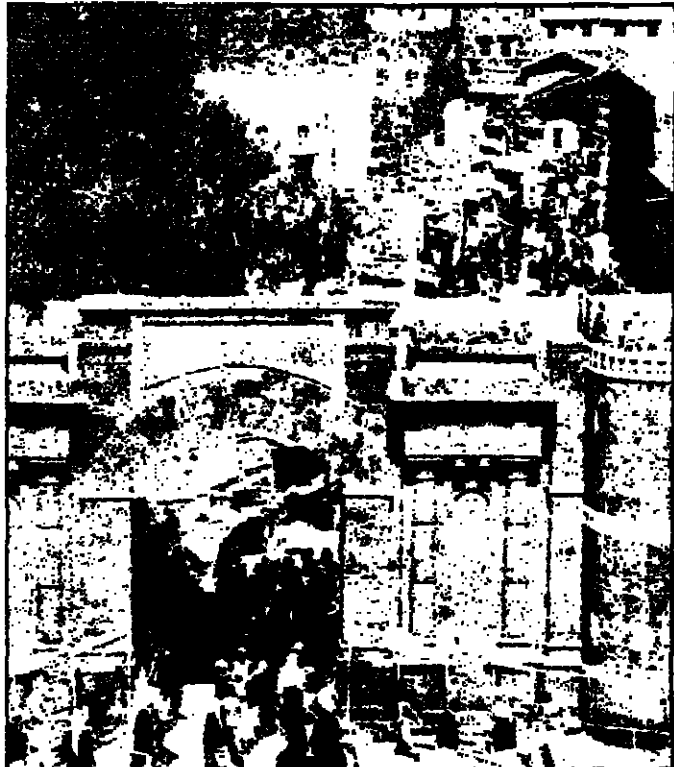
Sanaa in ancient south Arabian means strongly fortified — a prerequisite of a city straddling two major trade routes, and a traditional trading centre where luxuries from China and India were bartered for gold and silver from the Mediterranean.

One of the greatest and oldest Middle Eastern cities, Sanaa has not yet fallen victim to a plague of tourists or modern developers wielding concrete, breeze blocks and iron girders.

But a few years ago the old city was dying on its shallow foundations, strangled by the urban sprawl around it and a slow bleeding away of its community, drawn to modern suburbs with electricity, running water and an efficient sewerage system.

By 1976, Sanaa as a whole was inhabited by 130,000 people, some 45,000 clinging to ancestral homes in the old quarter.

Four years later, political stability and modest growth pushed the population of Greater Sanaa to nearly half a million. By 1986, however, the old city's dwellers had shrunk to 35,000.



Sanaa: a cluster of the world's oldest high-rise buildings among mosques, caravanserais, souks and gardens.

The challenge for this small, impoverished state on the toe of the Arabian peninsula was to halt the erosion, and revive life in the old city without discouraging local trade.

But adapting the ancient city to modern living standards was difficult. There were no pavements, and roads clogged with dust in summer became a torrent of mud in the rain. Built for camels, alleys could not take increasing traffic, which damaged walls, split curbs and shook foundations.

Where running water was installed, in clogged ancient drains and threatened to undermine homes.

Since the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural (UNESCO) launched a 300-million-dollar preservation appeal in 1984, the population hemorrhage has been stemmed.

Now about 50,000 people live there, many having returned due to 10 million dollars of money from abroad spent renovating the city.

Italy and West Germany

have been the biggest foreign contributors to date, helping build pavements, clinics and schools.

But a shortage of cash remains the biggest barrier to North Yemen's plan to conserve old Sanaa, which covers 5,600 houses in 36 hectares (90 acres).

Almost all the aid that has trickled in so far comes from the West, and city authorities fear it will not be sufficient.

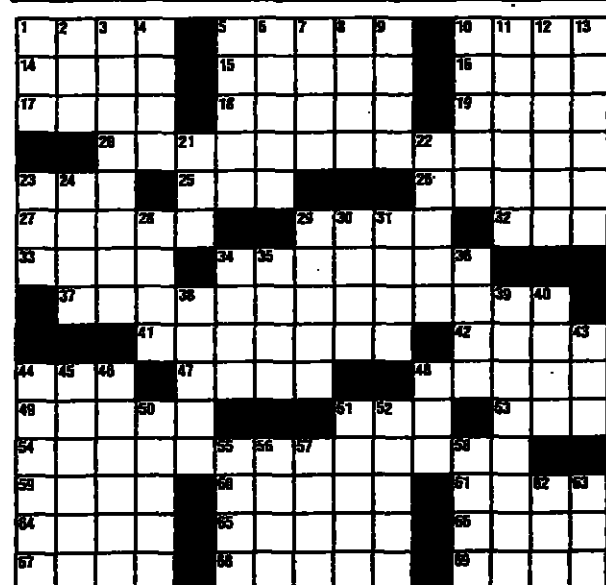
"It's not enough, and it's not coming in fast enough," says Syrian-educated architect Ahmed A. Alibi, who has restored his family home in the old city at his own expense.

"We want to revive the skills and traditional trades of the old city," says Alibi, adding that local businesses have been asked to contribute to the scheme.

The final word goes to a traditional poet who invited all to visit one of the Arab world's most remarkable cultural centres.

"Sanaa must be seen, however long the journey," "Though the hardy camel droop, leg-worn on the way."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 All ears
 - 5 Spring flower
 - 10 Mild oath
 - 14 "Grand Ole —"
 - 15 Infuriated
 - 16 Decorate
 - 17 Plisner, e.g.
 - 18 Gymnast
 - 19 Out of control
 - 20 1958 Errol Flynn role
 - 23 Tallahassee inst.
 - 25 West
 - 26 Hemisphere org.
 - 28 Rusted away
 - 29 Links figure
 - 30 "— virumque cano..." Virgil
 - 32 Newspaper VIPs
 - 33 Jason's vessel
 - 34 Cleveland team
 - 37 1941 Flynn role
 - 41 Settled for the night
 - 42 Cuts
 - 44 "The law is a —" Dickens
 - 47 Comic Johnson
 - 48 Rene's high school
 - 49 Jalousie
 - 51 Inlet
 - 53 DDE
 - 54 1942 Flynn role
 - 59 Satanic
 - 60 Panoply
 - 61 Hawaii port
 - 64 Hermit's dwelling
 - 65 Denotes
 - 66 Author Bagnold
 - 67 Deuce beater
 - 68 Directs
 - 69 Stars
- DOWN**
- 1 One of the Reimers
 - 2 Gibbon
 - 3 Be unfair, in a way
 - 4 No vice
 - 5 Feather: Lat.
 - 6 Sausis
 - 7 Nothing, in Mexico
 - 8 Recipe direction
 - 9 "Woman of the —": 1942 film
 - 10 Theater-goer's choice
 - 11 Aloof
 - 12 Held in veneration
 - 13 Keepsakes
 - 14 Heavy barge
 - 21 Bings forth young
 - 23 Farmers' org.
 - 24 Famed puppeteer
 - 28 Portal
 - 29 "— which will live in infamy": FOR
 - 30 Sake source
 - 31 "— Muller": Whittier poem
 - 34 Stravinsky
 - 35 Cozy place
 - 36 Quell
 - 38 Pavers' targets
 - 39 Provocative
 - 40 Exude
 - 43 Visualize
 - 44 Miserable
 - 45 Drool
 - 46 Cheeks like roses, e.g.
 - 48 Soap ingredient
 - 50 Nervous —
 - 51 Sigma
 - 52 Pi
 - 55 Sidepiece of a door
 - 56 Canadian Indian
 - 57 Algerian port
 - 58 Malcolm
 - 62 "Diamond —" TV role
 - 63 Pindaric

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALIA PINED APER
TONI ULLINE MORA
ODOR ROLLINGPIN
PINBALL ELECT
OME ELLIE
HORRID TAILSPIN
AMONG ACTA ONE
GASEOUS ERUDITE
ENE NOON NOSED
NINEPINS FINERY
FETES ROA
CHAFE PINTAIL
PINUPGIRLS INTO
ALIS ALEAK OTEA
SOLE LOONY NERD

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
FIND THE EXTRA CHANCE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ K
♥ J 4 2
♦ 8 5 2
♣ Q 10 9 7 5 3

WEST

♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 8 6
♦ J 9 3
♣ J 6 4 2

SOUTH

♠ A 4 3
♥ A K Q 3
♦ A Q 7 4
♣ A K

The bidding:

South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
3 NT Pass 6 ♣ Pass
6 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣

Sometimes it is easy to spot the different lines available to you as declarer, and how to combine them to maximize your chances. But once in a while your extra chance is hidden, and has to be ferreted out.

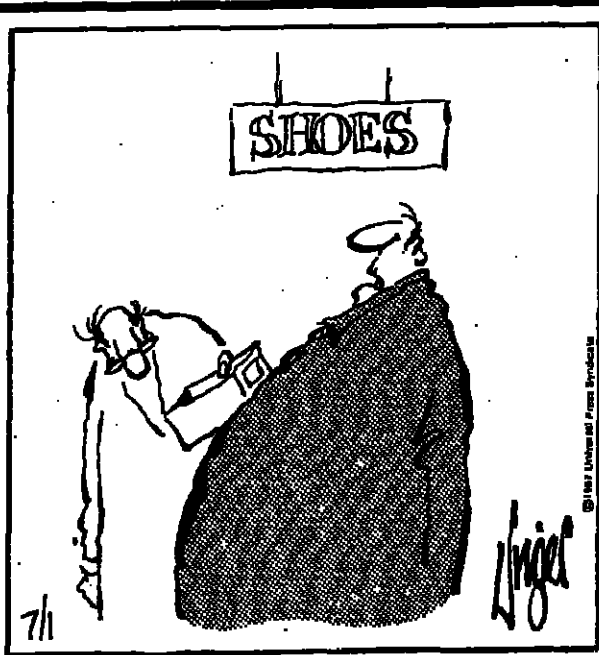
After South showed a balanced hand of 25-27 points, North judged his six-card suit and smattering of cards on the side to be worth a shot at slam. Whether or not South should have corrected is debatable.

West got his side off to its best

start with his spade lead, knocking out one of dummy's crucial entries. Declarer cashed the ace-king of clubs, and was rudely jolted when East discarded a spade. Not yet willing to lower the flag, he crossed to the jack of hearts and cashed the queen of clubs for a spade discard. He successfully finessed the queen of diamonds, then cashed the ace. East alertly jettisoned the king of diamonds under the ace, so when declarer continued with a third round of the suit, West was able to gain the lead and cash the jack of clubs for a one-trick set.

Declarer found his extra chance—an even diamond split with the king on side—but he did not come up with the right way to utilize his good fortune. See what a difference it makes if, at trick four, after cashing the ace-king of clubs, declarer were to concede a diamond trick to the defenders by playing low from his hand.

The defenders can force out the ace of spades, but now declarer can enjoy the blessings of Dame Fortune. After crossing to dummy with the jack of hearts, he discards a spade on the queen of clubs. Then he takes a winning diamond finesse and cashes the ace. When both defenders follow, declarer's long diamond is set up as the fulfilling trick.



"They feel comfortable. What do they look like?"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have no difficulty in handling the situation you find yourself in. Something that has been bothering you will now become easier to deal with. You should have more faith in yourself. Be loyal.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will feel rather reluctant to do what has to be done. You should allow yourself sufficient room for manoeuvre. Concentrate on doing what is practical. Be reasonable.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity. You will find it easier to get on with others. You must beware of eating too much of something you like. Be considerate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be able to make good use of some new information. By all means set yourself high targets but do not be too disappointed if you do not reach them all. A little more patience is what is needed just now. Be less obstinate.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

This is going to be an eventful day and you should do all you can to avoid missing a good opportunity. You should not allow your likes and dislikes to cloud your judgment. Be amenable.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will find it more difficult to come to terms with the situation. You should not allow others to tell you what you should do but you should listen to sound advice.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be able to see things in a new light. You will have to be on your guard against someone who is trying to deceive you. Something you have learnt recently will stand you in good stead. Be less insistent.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should work hard but not to the bone. Make sure your private life does not take a backseat. Do all you can not to overtake yourself. Be a little more patient.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should not try to have your own way through thick and thin, instead make a few concessions. Remember that others also have their point of view and are entitled to it.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should pay a little more attention to detail. Do not take too much notice of a bit of gossip. Avoid trying to bully others. Be responsive.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should try to adopt a more steady working rhythm instead of doing things by fits and starts. A tendency to eat and drink more than is good for you will have to be curbed.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should make sure you do not do anything which would give rise to animosity. You will be able to do something which you have been prevented from doing. Avoid doing things by halves.

SPECTRUM

Ivorian women favour return to polygamy

By Claude Regis

ABIDJAN, Reuter: A growing number of men and women in Ivory Coast are clamouring for a return to polygamy — and women appear keener on the idea than men.

The demand comes from wives and mistresses alike although their reasons are different. But they probably stem from the country's economic woes.

The popular Abidjan evening newspaper Ivoir Soir triggered the current debate with a front-page headline asking: "Should polygamy be legalised?"

It said many wives and mistresses it polled favoured a return to the system banned in 1964, four years after independence.

Economic

Wives complained that their husbands were split between two or more homes and said it would be simpler and more economical to have the other woman, or women, under the same roof.

Mistresses cited security and social benefits, as well as being able to come out into the open, as reasons for favouring polygamy.

Sociologists explain the militancy of pro-polygamy lobby by the fact that Ivory Coast has been plunged into a severe economic crisis by falling prices for cocoa and coffee, its main export commodities.

"To pool resources inside one house rather than disperse them into several is plain common sense to both men and women," said one.

The average Ivorian urban male has one wife and one mistress, the latter being popularly referred to here as his "deuxième bureau" (second office), part of the French secret service.

In this sophisticated West African city, the more affluent a man is, the more "bureaux" or homes he sets up, quite openly, outside wedlock.

This long accepted feature of Ivorian society has been the subject of countless books, stage comedies and jokes, particularly during the cocoa boom of the 1970s, when fortunes were made and some prosperous businessmen could afford to set up many "bureaux".

Although Ivory Coast banned polygamy, the law has not changed mentalities, and polygamy thrives under the form of the "bureaux". For more than 20 years, no one seemed to mind.

Now, in these economically hard times, women have come to realise that they gained little from the ban.

"Polygamy was banned to give women equal status but after a quarter of a century it is clear that men have been the beneficiaries," complains teacher Pauline Konan.

She feels that the law has spawned two different types of wives, one legitimate and one or several others towards whom the Ivorian male has no legal obligation.

"The legitimate wife enjoys security and inherits from a dead husband while mistresses and their children have no social benefits of any kind," she adds.

Natural

Like other intellectuals Konan, who is 24 and not married, says polygamy is natural to African society although frowned upon in other parts of the world.

She said she would not mind sharing a husband with one or more wives.

Antonin Kragbe, a law student, says Ivorian men should be allowed to choose their matrimonial status as is the case in other West African countries like Senegal, Gabon, Togo, Cameroon and Mali.

In Gabon and Cameroon a man decides when he first marries whether he will have several wives. If he decides against it, he cannot change his mind and take another.

Most Senegalese and Malians are Muslims and their religion accepts polygamy. The law says a man can have up to four wives and in Mali he is entitled to change his mind if he opted for a monogamous marriage, but only with his wife's consent.

In Ivory Coast, which is split equally between Muslims, Christians and animists, polygamy has largely survived as a feature of rural society although it is illegal except for men who had more than one wife before the law was voted in 1964.



A Vietnamese family meal is interrupted by a US soldier.

They were born half Vietnamese, half American — the love children of America's GIs. Now, to escape the bigotry of their native Vietnam and search for their fathers, they are arriving in America...dreaming of a new life.



American military police survey the Viet Cong dead, at the American Embassy in Saigon during the Tet offensive.

Left-overs from the Vietnam war

Revealed: the plight of the dust children

By Karen Ives

WITH films like Oliver Stone's 'Platoon' and Stanley Kubrick's 'Full Metal Jacket', Hollywood has brought the cruel realities of Vietnam back to the American public. But the scars of the war are not just on the veterans that returned home.

Vietnam still bears them too — in thousands of children who are strangers in their own land. They are Amerasians, the children of American soldiers who were born in Vietnam.

In their own country they are known as "bui doi" — children of the dust. And in tens, twenties, hundreds and thousands they continue to trickle through Hanoi in search of the land of their fathers.

Hurt
Because of their semi-American features they are reviled and rejected by their own — and forced to scavenge a living on the streets.

Their only hope is to follow the 4,000 who have already got out. About 2,000 are in transit via Bangkok while more than 10,000 are still in Vietnam dreaming of freedom.

The average age of the children is now 18 and some of them are coming with children of their own. So far only three

per cent of those released have been reunited with their GI fathers. Many have no idea who their fathers are, or arrive clutching faded photographs or a yellowing scrap of paper with a name.

Kim Thu, 19, traced her

father to Northern California. "He didn't want to know," she said. "He was married and had his own family. He hung up on me."

One night Kim went to his home and waited just to catch a glimpse of him. "I didn't

approach him. I just put a little note in the mail box. He never replied. I was very sad and hurt but I am getting over it."

At least she knows who her father is. A 16-year-old, abandoned by his mother in Vietnam knew his last relative as

aunt number 8. At school his education was stopped because of his percentage. From the age of 12 he earned a living making shoes from old tyres. He is now in Bangkok reading a booklet called 'This is America'. All he knows about his father is that he was called Louie.

The one thing that keeps them going is the thought of finally reaching America.

Shock

Rose Marie Battisti, of the Mohawk Refugee Centre, in New York explains: "The purpose of our programme is survival — our main objective is for these people to go to work, start a new life and be self-sufficient."

"All their lives they have been told they do not belong because they are American. It is the first time they have seen people who look like themselves."

"We do everything possible to lessen the culture shock for the Amerasians. We find them an apartment, furnish it and buy clothes for them."

Most refugees go to work for minimum wages — these are jobs Americans do not want. But they are happy to do them because it means they begin to plan their future. It means that they at last have an identity.



An Amerasian girl (left) with her Vietnamese mother.



An Amerasian boy. After the war, anybody bearing an American child was discriminated against.

An estimated 95 per cent of the children the GIs abandoned will end up in foster homes. Yet 200 American fathers are seeking their children, so far they have located 19 children inside Vietnam and are now trying to get them out.

The Vietnam veteran's association supports them, but is equally protective of the men who don't want to know. They also help with another growing problem — full-blooded Vietnamese who try and pass themselves off as Amerasians so they can get into America.

Discrimination
The process of matching children with a possible father is difficult because the child has to write to the agency with the GI's Social Security number, a military ID number. These are then passed on to the US Defence Department where a confidential letter is sent to the father.

But, as Rose Marie Battisti says: "Many mothers destroyed evidence of the chil-

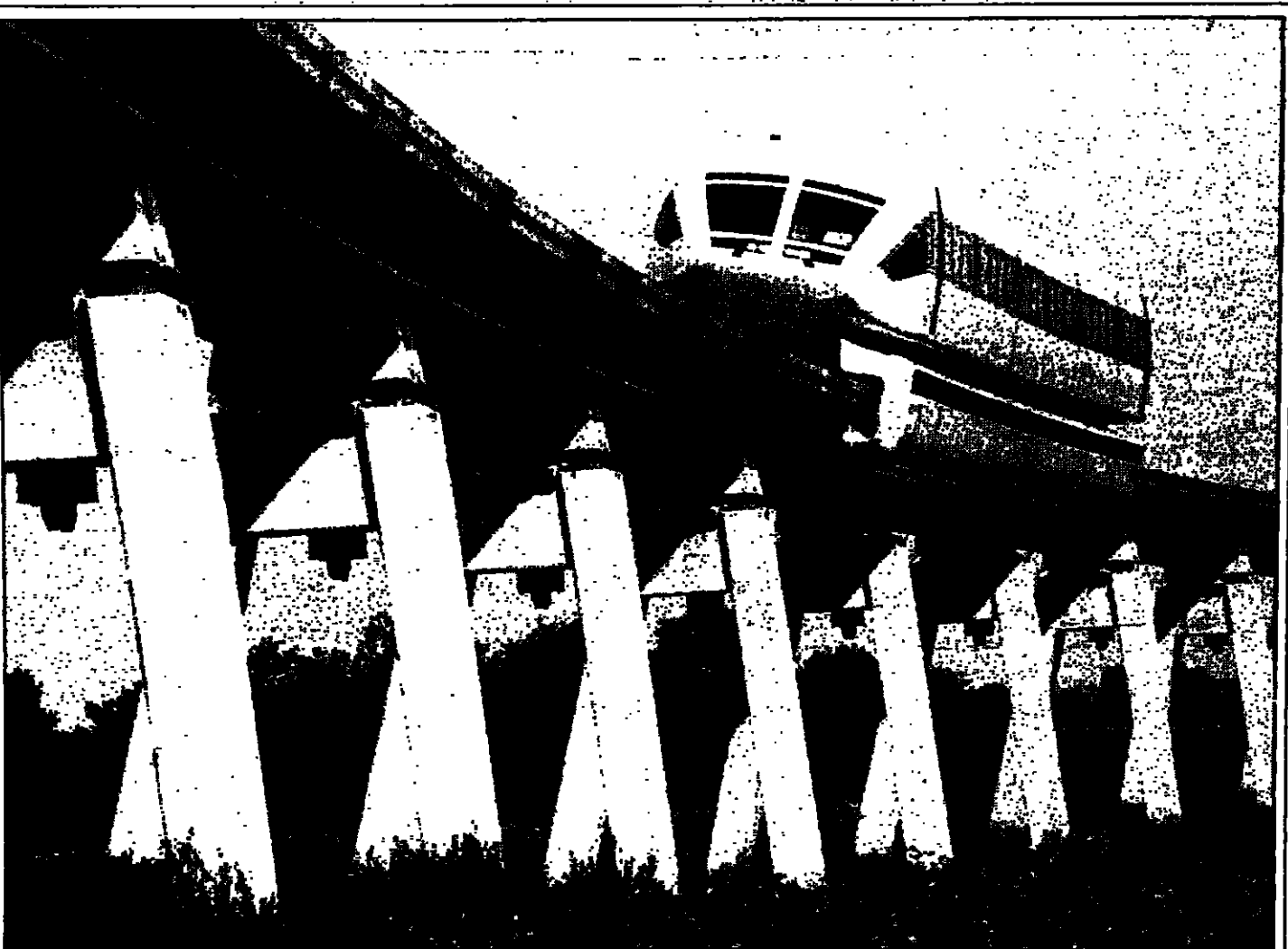
dren's father years ago because they did not want to face repercussions from the Vietnamese people. After the war the Vietnamese had disgust for anyone with Western looks. There was a tough policy of job discrimination against any Vietnamese woman bearing an Amerasian child."

Not surprisingly, when Amerasians reach America they are determined to make the most of their own opportunity. And there have been a few glowing success stories.

Rose Marie recalls: "The first child I had was a small boy called Yee Kim. When he stepped off the plane in New York into a brand new culture he was very frightened. But now he has matured into a bright, educated young man who was accepted at a university."

"That's what our work is all about. Yee Kim is an example to the others that are now following in his footsteps."

The children of the dust are coming home....



West Germany's high-speed Transrapid magnetic train is capable of speeds over 400 kilometres an hour.

Super - magnetic railway challenges air transport

Will the 21st century be the age of the train?

By Meinolf Ellers

HAMBURG: Cows graze peacefully on meadows near the northern German city of Lingen as the high-speed Transrapid magnetic train races past at up to 400 kilometres an hour.

In January the train set up a world record of 412.6 kilometres an hour on the 30 kilometre-long test track. The West German government will decide by June 30 what route the train will serve.

The 100-ton train travels on a three-metre wide concrete track resting on five-metre high pylons. Strong electromagnets on the under carriage pull the train, floating it above the track.

There is a constant distance of one centimetre between the track and the train as it moves on a magnetic field. Its top speed is estimated at 500 kilometres an hour.

Acting on the initiative of the

government in 1974 a company consortium took up the idea of the magnetic levitation train which had already been patented by the German engineer Hermann Kemper in 1935.

The train constructors Krauss-Maffei and Thyssen-Henschel, the aircraft constructor MBB and the electrical companies Siemens, AEG and BBC took part in the experiment along the northern German coast.

Since 1985 the magnetic levitation train has travelled 28,000 test kilometres breaking record after record. The state and industry have since invested 1.3 billion marks in Transrapid.

Companies and politicians see the train as a future export hit because it is years ahead of similar projects in Japan, Saudi Arabia, Canada and Soviet Union have already indicated interest.

Preliminary studies have also

been made for such a service between Los Angeles and Las Vegas. But no fixed contracts have been made with prospective clients, who want first to see the train operate in regular service.

The decision is difficult for Bonn politicians. The train will compete against the car, conventional railways and aircraft which all have very good networks. Critics ask whether there is really a need for a magnetic train route.

Apart from that the state-owned federal railways are investing billions of marks for the introduction of fast new Inter city Express trains.

From 1991 these will travel at speeds of up to 300 kilometres between the major cities. The railway now fears competition from the fast Transrapid. But the state-owned Lufthansa airline would gladly cede its loss-making domestic traffic to the magnet train.

Supporters of the Transrapid project point to the train's low energy consumption. The pylons can also more easily be adapted to the countryside as the train can cope with three times steeper gradients and tight corners as the normal railway train. On the other hand the concrete pylons are an eyesore.

A working group at the Bonn Research Ministry is now testing 70 variations of a regular route. Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber favours a link between the Duesseldorf and Frankfurt airports.

Another controversial proposal calls for a route from Hanover to West Berlin straight through East Germany. The government does not want to risk losing the Transrapid's technological headstart by procrastinating on the issue.

dpa Features

New service introduced in Britain

Dial-a-poem for culture lovers

By Marcus Eliason

LONDON, (AP): The telephone company launched a new service for culture-lovers — dial-a-poem.

For 38 pence (70 cents) a minute, British Telecom's customers can hear five-minute recordings of leading poets reciting their verse.

Callers dialling 0898-222255 could hear John Heath-Stubbs, 70, saying: "I'm very happy to be the first poet to be recorded in this dial-a-poem series," before reciting from four of his poems, ranging in subject from Noah's Ark through Cats in Poetry to Clocks and Space.

Heath-Stubbs is among six contemporary poets chosen for dial-a-poem.

It's too soon to tell whether the innovation will confound the 19th-century historian Thomas Macaulay's conviction that "civilisation advances, poetry almost necessarily declines." But something clearly is afoot.

The London subway has begun displaying tracts of Shelley, Burns and De la Mare on some of its trains, and a year ago the railroad company organised poetry readings at some of its stations.

Sarah Chesney of the English Language Society, the literary group that selected the dial-in

poets, explained in an interview: "We felt we should make poetry more accessible."

Added Lisa Bourne, a British Telecom spokeswoman: "Poetry was slowly fading away, and we thought it would be a great idea to bring it back."

State-owned until it was floated on the stock market in 1984, British Telecom is always on the lookout for a profit-making sideline, and it said that if dial-a-poem attracted 1,000 calls a week, it would make the service permanent.

Other poets reading their verse during the six-week trial run are Kathleen McPhilemy, Jeremy Reed, Bernard Kops, James Berry and Gillian Allnut.

"We wanted something refreshingly adventurous poetry that is not so obscure that it doesn't come across well on the phone, but that is also not strictly traditional," said Ms. Chesney.

She said each poet would receive 10 per cent of the profits from the service.

Problem
One problem is British Telecom's phone lines, which aren't famous for their clarity. Heath-Stubbs came through somewhat faintly and would only be comprehensible in a quiet room.

"I don't think the telephone does the poets justice in a way

that hearing them firsthand would," Ms. Chesney acknowledged.

"But many people won't have the chance to hear them firsthand, and for them it's refreshing to hear them (the poets) in their own voices."

To listen to Heath-Stubbs' entire five minutes costs 1.90 pounds (3.45 dollars) between 8 am and 6 pm but a cheaper rate during slack hours brings the cost down 1.25 pounds (2.25 dollars).

A sampling from Heath-Stubbs' "The Cosmic Clock": "Planets, stars, galaxies — the whole twinkling and blinking caboodle —

This, it seems, is the only reliable clock:
A beam from a star crossed a sensitive plate —

Then came the pips: the British nation turned on the 10 o'clock news.

This is the moving image of eternity.
I don't mean Paley's watch discarded

By the absconding watchmaker Upon a bank of Wordsworthian daffodils.

But Pulsars, quasars, decaying elements, black holes:
Yet this, they say, is likewise winding down —

And hickory — dickory, man and mice we run in it."

SUDS: fresh clues on mystery disease

By Ed Stych

MINNEAPOLIS: A mystery disease that kills seemingly healthy Southeast Asian men in their sleep is primarily caused by a diet high in vitamin-deficient white rice, a researcher suggested recently.

Ronald Munger, a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Minnesota's division of epidemiology, said his studies show that stress is not the leading cause of Sudden Unexpected Death Syndrome, as some experts have said.

Munger, 34, presented his findings to a conference of the Society for Epidemiologic Research in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Other researchers expressed doubts about his hypothesis. SUDS is the leading cause of death for Southeast Asian refugees, men, ages 25 to 44, during their first few years in the United States. The Hmong,

who fled Laos after fighting on the American side during the Vietnam war, are particularly hard hit.

The disease has claimed 117 Southeast Asian refugees since 1977, according to the US Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. Nearly all died in their sleep.

Instability
Although researchers know the immediate cause of SUDS is an electrical instability of the heart, they do not know what causes the instability.

The most common theory is that the deaths are caused mainly by stress related to immigration and culture shock. Other possibilities under study are heart abnormalities and genetic predisposition.

Munger said he places the main blame on white rice, a diet staple of Southeast Asians.

Brown rice is unpolished and a good source of thiamine, or vitamin B1, essential to normal

nerve function and metabolism of carbohydrates. Eighty per cent of thiamine is lost in the milling process that produces white rice.

Thiamine deficiency often causes inflammation and degeneration of the nerves, digestive system and heart. Most SUDS victims appear normal before dying.

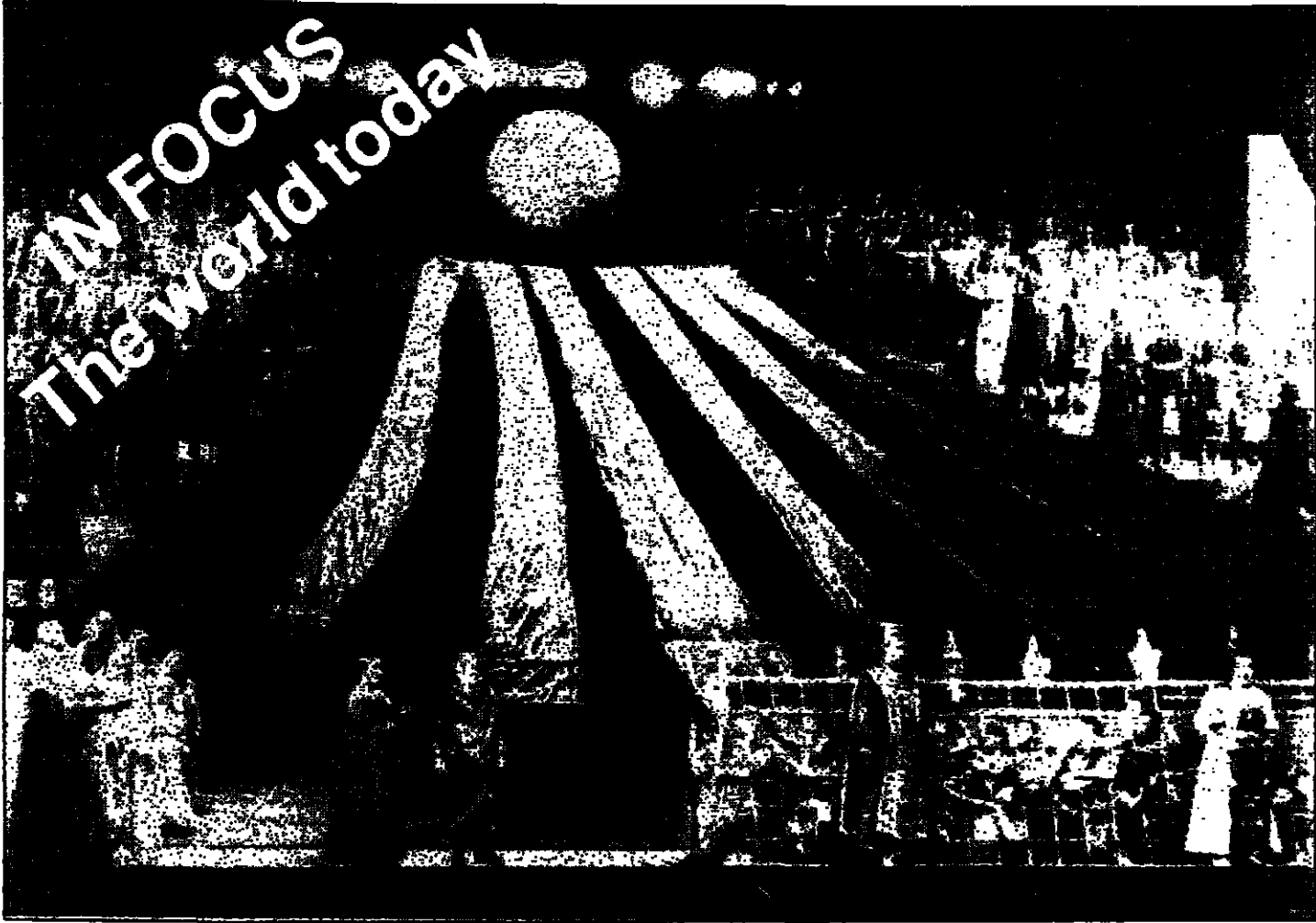
But Munger said there could be undocumented effects.

Charles Oberg, a paediatrician at the Hennepin County Medical Centre in Minneapolis, said Munger's hypothesis has merit but needs further testing.

"The dietary pattern of the poor in Southeast Asia, the Philippines and Japan is to have the bulk of the calories come from milled rice," Munger said. "This isn't a problem if people have adequate sources of meat and legumes, because these are foods that are rich in thiamine."

IN FOCUS

The world today



AMERICAN Grace Bumbry (left) rehearsing with members of a cast of over 600 international artists for a production of the spectacular classic Verdi opera 'Aida' that opened yesterday at London's Earl's Court Arena. The production, held in Europe's largest indoor stadium, features a massive set of pyramids and Egyptian splendour. (Reuter wirephoto)



VILLAGE women mourn for the victims of the Turkish landslide. Rescue workers are still searching for the bodies after the landslide hit Catak village. (Reuter wirephoto)



FAR-RIGHT South African leader Eugene Terre Blanche (centre) flanked by aides, arrives at a meeting to celebrate the 15th anniversary of his Afrikaner Resistance Movement, a group opposed to any integration with blacks. (Reuter wirephoto)



POPE JOHN PAUL II meets with the handicapped inside Salzburg Cathedral. Afterwards, the Pope celebrated an open-air mass at the Residence Square, which was attended by some 20,000 people. (Reuter wirephoto)



HOLDING portraits of Lenin (top) and Gorbachev (bottom), members of the Patriotic Front march down on Moscow's inner boulevards during a demonstration on the eve of a major party conference. (Reuter wirephoto)



MONTREAL EXPOS catcher Nelson Santovenia (left) and Pittsburgh Pirates' Barry Bonds both reach for the ball after a foul tip during first inning action in Montreal on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)



AMERICAN violin virtuoso Isaac Stern plays Brahms in a church on Finland's west coast. Stern and many other international artists arrived in remote towns in Finland for a bewildering number of festivals. (Reuter wirephoto)



CHILDREN pick through the rubble of a three-storey hotel which was destroyed by a bomb blast that killed 13 people yesterday in the Pakistani city of Peshawar. (Reuter wirephoto)



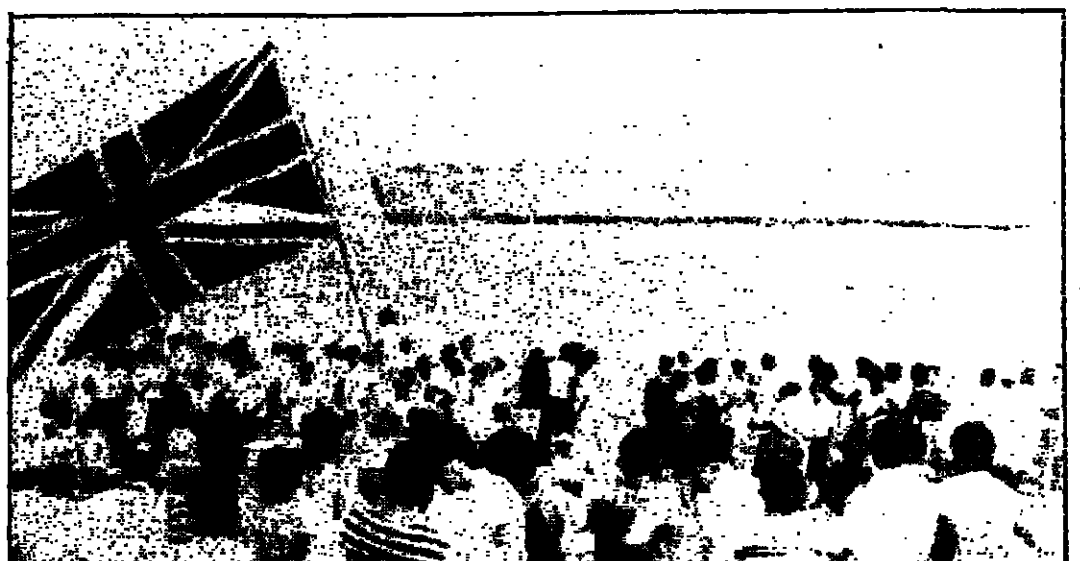
MICHAEL SPINKS, in a snazzy hat, and Mike Tyson (right), being handed a boxing glove to examine, at the weigh-in yesterday for their heavyweight title bout today.



THE defending dragon boat rowing team champions, Shan De, from Guangdong province, China, celebrate their win in the 13th Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races. The rowers, who hail from a fishing county in southern China, took the title despite strong challenges from Canadian and US teams. (Reuter wirephoto)



AN UNIDENTIFIED woman weeps as she caresses one of the panels of the New York Memorial Quilt, after it was unfolded on the Great Lawn of Central Park. The quilt bears the names of more than 1,500 people killed by AIDS. (Reuter wirephoto)



MALTESE residents welcome the British carrier Ark Royal, as it lays anchor in St Paul's Bay instead of Valletta's Grand Harbour where hundreds of supporters of the opposition Labour Party had been waiting to protest against the visiting warships suspected of carrying nuclear arms. (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Texas firm wins US embassy contract

BAHRAIN, June 26, (Reuters): A Texas-based firm has won a \$31.5 million contract to build housing at the US embassy in Saudi Arabia, an embassy spokesman said yesterday.

The company, HB Zachry Co., will construct a total of 69 housing units for the embassy's staff by August 28, 1990.

US Charge d'Affaires David Dunford was scheduled to break the ground for the ambassador's residence in Riyadh's diplomatic quarter in a ceremony yesterday.

400 top businessmen invited to meet in Bahrain

Gulf states to set up joint investment company

BAHRAIN, June 26, (Reuters): Arab Gulf governments have invited 400 top businessmen to meet in Bahrain in October to discuss setting up a joint investment company aimed at boosting the region's industry.

Khalid Ashoor, board member of the Doha-based Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC), said the government body wanted the private sector to take the lead in industrial development.

"Ten years ago, we build our

basic infrastructure for heavy industry," he said. "Now we have reached the point where we would like the private sector to play a role in the development strategy of the area."

Ashoor, director of Bahrain's Industrial Development Centre, said the company envisaged by GOIC would link private sector investment with government projects and schemes proposed by foreign firms.

GOIC groups Iraq and the six Gulf Cooperation Council

(GCC) states of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Hit by shrinking oil revenues, the six GCC states have this year urged private businessmen to revive their stagnant economies with more investment.

Ashoor said another aim of the joint investment company would be to help repatriate private funds invested abroad, estimated by some bankers at around \$150 billion — more than twice the

total GCC budgets for 1988. "The whole idea is that this will be a holding company which can absorb any kind of investment for any viable project," he said.

"The company is urgently needed because we are wasting our time now — if someone has a project he has to go from one office to another looking for funds."

Ashoor said a target capital figure had not yet been set. He declined to name any

specific projects GOIC had in mind, but industrial sources said the first item under consideration was one billion dollar aluminium smelter in Qatar.

Ashoor said GOIC hoped the company would finance medium to small-scale downstream projects in aluminium, petrochemical, manufacturing and service industries throughout the area.

"There is political support for the idea. There are many projects we have in mind," Ashoor said.

US, Japan reach accord on consumer products

WASHINGTON, June 26, (AP): US and Japanese officials have announced an agreement aimed at expanding sales of a range of American-made consumer products in Japan, a market that US companies have found difficult to penetrate.

The agreement reached yesterday would affect American sporting goods and leisure products, furniture, jewellery, processed foods and pet foods, which together accounted for nearly \$1.6 billion in exports to Japan last year.

Shortfall
Of the United States' \$170 billion trade deficit in 1987, \$60 billion of the shortfall was with Japan. American government and business officials have long complained that US products are not allowed to compete fairly in Japan.

"This is a first attempt to really penetrate the Japanese consumer market by getting access to consumers," Commerce Secretary C. William Verity said.

Verity and Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, Hajime Tamura, announced the pact at a news conference and said they hoped that additional industries would be added to the initiative. Verity said that officials from the two countries had discussed the eventual inclusion of about 20 products, including medical and computer equipment.

Under the agreement, trade officials from both countries will help American companies find potential customers in Japan. Verity said he will meet soon with executives of the US industries involved to discuss the programme.

Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry will help remove obstacles that have hindered US sales in Japan, the officials said.

"MITI will work with them in opening opportunities to get the products on the shelves," Verity said. "In department stores, all products are Japanese."

Japanese banks and trading companies also will try to spur sales of US goods.

Verity and Tamura declined to estimate what effect the agreement would have on sales of American products in Japan. They acknowledged, however, that the initial results would not be dramatic.

"We don't have flowers immediately when we try to sow the seeds," Tamura said through a translator.

Tamura said the Japan's international trade surplus, which peaked in 1986, has been dropping in recent months while domestic demand has grown sharply. He said that in the first five months of this year, US imports to Japan increased 43 per cent over the same period in 1987.

"Now is the best possible opportunity for market entries," he said.

"The Japanese consumer is finally coming into his own," Verity said. "For our part, we want the Japanese consumer to be able to buy America's best."

Exports
United States exports to Japan last year totalled \$204 million in sporting goods and leisure products, \$34 million in furniture, \$217 million in jewellery, and \$1.1 billion in processed foods and pet food.

This is the second trade agreement between the United States and Japan in a week. Last Monday, the two countries reached a trade pact that would result in large increases in US imports of beef and citrus fruits to Japan by phasing out or reducing quotas and tariffs.

Latin America seeks closer ties with Arabs

OAXACA, Mexico, June 26, (Reuters): Latin American countries, strapped by persistent debt and trade problems, plan closer ties with Arab, Scandinavian and Asian countries to diversify their markets, regional foreign ministry officials said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters during a meeting of the Group of Eight Latin American foreign ministers, they said the region must extend links beyond its traditional trading partners in Europe and the United States.

Latin America's first contacts in this respect are due to take place in September at the United Nations, where the Group of Eight will meet the bloc of Arab countries.

Officials said the initiative for this meeting had come from

Saudi Arabia, which is interested in trade potential in Latin America.

There are also plans for the Group of Eight to meet in the near future with Scandinavian countries, the Southeast Asian bloc (ASEAN) and African nations.

The Group of Eight already has plans to meet the European Economic Community at the United Nations and intends to set up a regular mechanism for these contacts in line with its goal of establishing a political dialogue on debt and trade matters with creditor nations.

By far the largest portion of Latin American trade is with the United States, where its exports have recently faced growing protectionist pressure. At the

same time, US financial institutions are its biggest creditors.

The meeting here is focusing mainly on regional trade and economic integration as a means of overcoming the burden of debt payments and to prepare for a summit of Latin American presidents to be held next October in Uruguay.

Session
The ministers hope to give impetus to the integration process, breaking what they called a political bottleneck and setting the stage for ambitious joint industrial production arrangements as well as boosting inter-regional trade.

Six foreign ministers from Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela are in attendance. Brazil is

represented by a senior Foreign Ministry official and Panama's Foreign Minister, Jorge Ritter, will only take part in tomorrow's session in Mexico City of the Contadora group, the same countries as the Group of Eight.

Panama was suspended from the Group of Eight at their last meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, on Feb 26 but officials said they expect it will be reincorporated soon.

Also taking part in the meeting was Enrique Iglesias, president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Carlos Perez Castillo, permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and Norberto Bertana, Secretary General of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

Summit opens today

EEC leaders to discuss single currency

HANOVER, West Germany, June 26, (Reuters): Britain risks antagonising its partners again when European Economic Community leaders discuss creating a single EEC currency and central bank at their summit meeting starting tomorrow.

With the EEC's budget problems finally settled at the last summit in February, the two-day gathering in Hanover has been billed as a celebration of the 12-nation community's improved standing on the international stage.

String
West Germany's six-month EEC presidency has given summit host Chancellor Helmut Kohl a string of successes, including huge strides towards the goal of creating a community without internal borders or trade barriers by the end of 1992.

Diplomats said the leaders will pronounce themselves happy with the state of the community,

the world economy, and East-West relations — especially the EEC's newly-forged links with the Soviet bloc.

But Britain's commitment to broader European integration is certain to be called into question again during the summit debate on whether the EEC market also requires a common currency and a joint central bank.

No point
According to European Commission president Jacques Delors, who is certain to be reappointed as head of the European Economic Community executive during the summit, "some feel we need the new political impetus of agreeing this in principle."

But British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Parliament last week that the idea made sense only if the community had a single sovereign government instead of 12.

"That being not on the cards, I see no point of having anyone study a European central bank," she said.

Though no one expects a repeat in Hanover of the rows between Thatcher and her colleagues which dominated the last three summits, her attitude could revive charges that Britain's interest in the Community is purely commercial.

Britain has upset other EEC countries by resisting full membership of the European Monetary System (EMS), which would limit the amount by which the pound sterling could fluctuate against most other EEC currencies.

Diplomats said the meeting will also echo the confidence about the world economy expressed last week at the Toronto economic summit in which the Community's increased stature was noted.

Saudi bank reports nil net profit

RIYADH, June 26, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's biggest bank reported yesterday a zero net profit for the Islamic year ending August 24, 1987, after setting aside its largest-ever loan loss provisions.

The privately-owned National Commercial Bank (NCB) increased provisions for non-performing loans 10 per cent to 922.3 million riyals (\$245 million), according to a statement published in the Arabic press.

The Jeddah-based bank had reported a net profit of 30 million riyals (\$21 million) the year before.

During the last several years, banks in the region have been hit by falling oil revenues and many bad loans.

NCB published its results well after the kingdom's 10 other commercial banks — who all follow the calendar year — released their 1987 figures.

Four of the 10 banks showed a net loss after taking hefty provisions, while another four registered decreases in net profit.

IMF official leaves Cairo

CAIRO, June 26, (Reuters): A top official of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) left Cairo yesterday after a week of discussions with the government on economic reforms.

Abdel-Shakour Shaalan, Middle East director of the IMF, told reporters he would return at the end of July for more talks, the National Middle East News Agency (MENA) said.

Other senior IMF officials stayed in Cairo, apparently to continue a review of Egypt's economic performance following a May 1987 standby credits agreement.

IMF and Egyptian officials have kept silent on progress in the talks, regarded as important if Egypt — as expected — seeks fresh debt rescheduling from Paris Club creditor governments from July 1.

The Fund has urged Egypt, saddled with \$43 billion in foreign debt, to increase domestic interest rates, cut subsidies and reduce its budget deficit.

ECOWAS pledges legal steps against dumping

LOME, June 26, (Reuters): West African governments pledged yesterday to take legal steps to stop nuclear and toxic waste being dumped in the region.

Leaders of the 16-member Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) agreed to enact national laws making it a criminal offence to facilitate dumping.

In the main resolution from their annual summit, they also urged developed countries to tighten controls on exporters of hazardous waste who are forced by tight environmental legislation at home to seek dumping grounds abroad.

"We condemn in no uncertain terms all acts or attempts at dumping," the resolution said.

The ECOWAS leaders unanimously elected Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara as their chairman for the coming year.

They also accepted the principle of opening the regions main financial institution, the ECOWAS Fund, to non-regional members.

The Fund, severely hampered by lack of finance, is used to help pay for development projects.

But the anti-dumping measures attracted most attention at this 11th summit, which was held in the Togolese capital only weeks after the dangerous trade in toxic waste came to light. Dumps were found in Nigeria and Guinea this month but several other countries were approached with large financial inducements by private exporters.

Libya and Algeria sign agreement

BEIRUT, June 26, (Reuters): Libya and Algeria are to set-up a jointly operated bank and plan to co-operate more closely on customs and tariffs, the Libyan news agency Jana said today.

The agency, monitored in Beirut, said the agreement was signed in Tripoli, Libya, during a visit by Algerian Finance Minister Abdelaziz Khefif who returned to Algeria yesterday.

Reagan has changed free-market tune

WASHINGTON, June 26, (AP): President Ronald Reagan has hailed his final economic summit as a triumph for his long-held, free-market philosophy. But in one key respect his current policy is radically different from the early days of his administration.

The President, once content to sit by while the dollar soared in value, has become an active meddler in currency markets — anathema in the early days of Reaganomics. Then the cry was: "Let the markets decide" the fair exchange value of the dollar, left untouched by government.

But the final economic communique issued after the Toronto summit by the leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada brags that their policy of joint intervention has been a success and should be continued.

Intervention is the process by which countries buy and sell currencies on the open market, trying to influence their price.

Reagan and his first Treasury Secretary, Donald Regan, disavowed such actions during the President's first term, contending that the dollar's surge in value

during those years was a sign of economic strength.

The administration ignored pleas from American manufacturers and farmers who contended they were being battered by an over-valued dollar that made their goods uncompetitive on world markets.

At the dollar's highest point in February 1985, Reagan replied that the greenback's strength "wasn't a problem. It was a blessing," demonstrating how attractive the United States was to foreign investors.

Critics contended this hands-off policy was eroding America's industrial base and bringing on record trade deficits as American manufacturers and farmers were priced out of more foreign markets.

Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III, who replaced Regan in 1985, decided that with protectionist forces gaining the upper hand in Congress, it was time for a new approach.

The change turned out to be an announcement by the United States and its major allies in September 1985 that they would jointly intervene in currency markets to drive the dollar lower

in an effort to make American products competitive again.

"The administration changed views quite radically because of the near-recession in certain sectors of the economy in late 1984 and 1985," said Allen Sinai, chief economist of the Boston Co.

Since that time, the dollar has fallen by 50 per cent against the Japanese yen and German mark and by somewhat smaller margins against other currencies.

Improving
The effort began to pay off in the middle of 1986 as US exports in volume terms started improving even though the trade deficit in dollar terms continued to worsen because the weaker dollar made imports more expensive.

But after posting a record deficit of \$170.3 billion in 1987, the deficit for the first four months of this year has declined sharply to an annual rate of \$141.8 billion.

With that improvement has come a surge in the US growth rate, as manufacturing companies have been hiring to meet the increased export demands.

In February 1987, the summit nations switched from a policy of trying to drive the dollar lower to

one of stabilising the dollar, fearing that any further decline would threaten a resurgence of inflation in the United States and frighten away the foreign investors the country has come to depend on.

For most of last year that effort failed as market forces continued to push the dollar lower. The dollar's continued decline forced the Federal Reserve to step in and tighten interest rates to prevent a surge in inflation. This combination of a weak currency and rising interest rates has been blamed in a part for the October stock market collapse.

The market crash, rising fears of a global recession, convinced the summit countries of the critical need for stronger efforts at stabilising the dollar's value. They issued a Dec 22 communique pledging closer co-operation and that, so far, has done the trick.

In the Toronto economic communique, the countries repeated their pledge for close economic co-ordination, building on commitments made at the Tokyo summit in 1986 and the Venice summit last year.

Economists increasingly optimistic of US growth prospects

NEW YORK, June 26, (Reuters): Eight months after the stock market plunge, economists are increasingly optimistic of the US economy's growth prospects.

Fewer now see a recession any time, soon, thanks to booming exports and business spending in capital equipment. And some argue the 22.6 per cent dive in stock prices on October 19 — an event that fuelled recession fears — actually helped growth.

Snuffed out

The crash, they said, snuffed out excessive speculative pressures in the equities market and dampened inflationary expectations.

The collapse also checked, at least temporarily, rising interest rates and thus staved off recession, these economists said.

"What it did was strengthen the underlying fundamentals of

the economy by stripping out a lot of the speculative buildup in the equity market. And it brought interest rates down," said John Wilson, chief economist at Bank of America.

He also argued the collapse helped economic growth in 1988 by reducing the risks of a recession that could have unfolded from a runup in interest rates and runaway inflation.

"The economy would have been choked off sooner had rates not come down," agreed Bruce Steinberg, Merrill Lynch senior economist. The drop pumped some new life into rate-sensitive industries like housing and cars, he added.

"I got six to eight months in breathing room, because rates remained below where they were before the crash," he added, noting that bond yields, now under

nine per cent, are below the 10-1/4 per cent level seen around October 19. Short-term rates, which fell temporarily, are about equal to pre-crash levels.

Most economists expect the Federal Reserve to pause before taking any further action on interest rates.

Pushed back
Many believe the Fed's policy-making Open Market Committee (OMC), scheduled to meet on Wednesday and Thursday to discuss the central bank's monetary policy strategy, will order the necessary preparations for a further tightening should this later prove necessary.

The panel will also review its forecasts for economic expansion, inflation and money supply growth in preparation for Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan's semi-annual report to Congress

on the state of the economy, scheduled for July 13.

Merrill Lynch, like others, has pushed back its forecasts of a recession, calling for a contraction in the middle of 1989 instead of early 1989.

Others, too, have turned increasingly bullish on the nation's growth outlook, and have boosted their growth forecasts since October 19.

Then, many economists said the risk of recession had grown, because the hundreds of billion of dollars lost in the crash and the resulting blow to consumer confidence could have caused consumers and businesses to rein in spending levels.

Confidence levels, however, rebounded, and fewer economists today expect a recession any time soon, according to a survey by blue chip economic

indicators.

"There isn't much merit in even speculating on when the next recession might come," said Mellon Bank chief economist Norman Robertson, who early had anticipated a contraction in early 1989. Now, if it occurs, it will come later, he said.

"I don't see any speculative excesses or imbalances that have in the past been precursors of recession," Robertson said.

Among those increasing their growth estimates is the Reagan administration, which this week said it expects three per cent growth in 1988, up from the 2.4 per cent in the first quarter.

Chief White House Economic Adviser Beryl Sprinkel said on Thursday the economy was performing well and said the odds were overwhelmingly against a recession in the near future.

World Business Summary

Texaco likely to remain under pressure after battle

NEW YORK, June 26, (Reuters): Texaco Inc., the victor for now in its battle with US investor Carl Icahn, will remain under pressure as Wall Street scrutinises its success in restructuring over the next year, analysts said yesterday. Many analysts believe the third-largest US oil company will succeed in its restructuring plan and may even take further steps to boost the value of its stock. In the week since Texaco said it won a proxy fight with Icahn for seats on the board, Wall Street's takeover mill has churned up every possible scenario, including an expanded stock repurchase plan by Texaco and a hostile takeover offer from Icahn. But Icahn is not tipping his hand, and said he does not yet know what he will do. A final count on the vote in the proxy contest may not be public for several weeks, although Icahn has already conceded defeat. "We're just trying to decide what to do here, depending on the closeness of the vote," said Icahn in a brief telephone interview with Reuters. He would not comment further. Icahn holds 14.8 per cent of Texaco stock, and said previously that if he lost the proxy fight for five of 14 Texaco board seats he would sell the shares. However, some analysts believe he may now be planning some other move. Some analysts believe a third party could buy Icahn's stock and there has been speculation Texaco will increase the repurchase of shares in a buyback to help ease him out of his large holding. Texaco will not comment on the idea of expanding its share repurchase programme, which is expected as part of its restructuring plan.

Official says China has no plan to devalue currency

BEIJING, June 26, (AP): A senior official of the exchange control administration says China has no plans to devalue its currency against major foreign currencies, the official China Daily said yesterday. Li We, deputy chief of the exchange rate division, cited the expected shrinking of China's trade deficit this year in denying widespread reports that China will soon devalue the yuan as a means to bring down inflation and the demand for imports. China devalued its currency by 15.8 per cent, to 3.7 yuan to the US dollar, in July 1986, but economists agree that the yuan remains over-valued. The currency is known both as the yuan and the renminbi. The renminbi, which is non-convertible, is officially equal in value to "foreign exchange certificates" used in foreign transactions, but on the black market and in officially recognised exchange adjustment centres one renminbi is worth about 1.6 renminbi. China reduced its trade deficit from \$12 billion in 1986 to about \$4 billion last year, mainly by promoting exports and stepping controls on imports.

S. Korean tobacco industry may file anti-dumping petition

SEOUL, June 26 (UPI): The South Korean tobacco industry will investigate the pricing of US cigarettes and possibly file an anti-dumping petition with the Finance Ministry, a newspaper reported today. Angered by a government decision to allow some US cigarettes to be sold at below \$1, officials from the state-run office of monopoly, trade union representatives and tobacco growers have joined in an attempt to prove the price is below cost, the Hankook Ilbo reported. During bilateral trade discussions in May, the government gave in to US demands that cigarette prices be reduced as part of America's attempt to alleviate its nearly \$1 billion trade deficit with South Korea. The Brown and Williamson Co. of the United States, beginning in July, will sell Kents, Lucky Strikes and Kools for 97 cents per pack, the newspaper said. US cigarettes currently sell at prices ranging from \$1.79 to \$1.93 per pack. Tobacco union officials claim the 97 cents per pack price is below the \$1 per pack average cost of domestic cigarettes in the United States, the newspaper said. The most expensive South Korean brands sell for 83 cents per pack. In an effort to discourage people from smoking imported cigarettes, the Korean Young Men's Christian Association plans to launch a two-year boycott campaign July 1.

Maxwell announces major investment plans in Belgium

BRUSSELS, Belgium, June 26, (AP): British media magnate Robert Maxwell said yesterday he plans to invest between 800 million and one billion francs (\$21 to 26 million) in the Belgian printing and publishing group Dupuis. The group, one of Europe's leading French-language comic strip publishers, is controlled by Groupe Bruxelles Lambert. But Maxwell said he will receive a 50-per cent stake in the company as part of the arrangement. Dupuis publishes such popular cartoon books as Les Schtroumpfs (The Smurfs), Spirou, Gaston et Giffi, Boule et Bill and Lucky Luke. Maxwell also said he expects to produce the first million test copies of his planned European newspaper before the end of July. He said the Dupuis printing facilities in Marcinelle, 50 kilometres (31 miles) south of Brussels, may be used for printing some of the editions "if the capacity is available." In a related development, Maxwell said he planned to buy shares in Societe Generale De Belgique SA, the country's largest holding company. Maxwell said his Belgian investments could make him the largest single foreign investor in the country.

Italy/South of France/Spain —

Arabian Gulf Trade Suspension of Currency Adjustment Factor (CAF)

With reference to the notice given in the press in March 1988, the undermentioned Lines hereby announce that due to an improvement in the position of US dollar since the last calculation made, the CAF will be suspended again as from 1st July 1988.

This notice is issued on behalf of:
C.N.M. Compagnia di Navigazione Merzario Spa
GMB NV
Hapag-Lloyd AG
Lloyd Triestino
Navale et Commerciale Havraise Peninsulaire (NCHP)
Nedlloyd Lijnen BV (Nedlloyd Lines)
Norasia Shipping Lines (HK)
Sea-Land Services Inc.
United Arab Shipping Co. (SAG)

CURRENCY & BUSINESS

ARAB TIMES, MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1988

Dealers nervously watch Fed

Economists see pitfalls ahead as dollar rallies

NEW YORK, June 26, (Reuters): The Group of Seven leading industrial nations may have opened the door to a dollar rally but economists say shifts in global interest rates, the US elections, and economic developments could pressure the US currency in the months ahead.

Reading between the lines of the Toronto communiqué from the economic summit that finished last week, many economists concluded that the G-7 acquiesced in a firmer dollar to help bring about a rise in interest rates around the world and to help keep a Republican administration in the White House.

Soared
And the dollar soared, hitting an eight-month high against the West German mark this week and a four-month high against the Japanese yen. Dealers watched nervously for the Federal Reserve to signal disapproval by selling dollars. It did not.

The dollar climbed on Friday to end the week at 1.8145 marks, up from 1.7850 at Thursday's

close and 1.7495 a week earlier. It also closed at 130.45 yen, up from 128.60 at Thursday's finish, and 125.75 last Friday.

Next week, dealers expect the dollar to test the 1.83 marks and 132 yen level.

"The market will challenge the dollar to the upside until they get well-publicised Fed intervention," said Sonia Stromeyer of MMS International Inc in New York.

The dollar has been buttressed by the Federal Reserve's credit tightening of nearly one full percentage point since late March, economists said.

Hiked
But once interest rates are hiked in different countries the dollar will be deprived of a key element of support. Higher interest rates make a currency more attractive to investors and so when other nations hike their rates the dollar loses its edge.

"G-7 officials seem to be saying they support stability and general credit tightening, but the long-run implication is not

dollar supportive," said Christiane Mandell of Barclays Bank.

Mandell, Barclays' financial markets adviser, said that the currency market has focused on the improving US trade account, ignoring a deteriorating US current account, a wider measure that encompasses other transactions such as services. The first-quarter US current account gap widened to \$39.75 billion from \$33.52 billion in the 1987 fourth quarter.

Strong

"There's been no reaction so far, but this can't last, particularly if a Democrat looks like a strong candidate for president," Mandell said. "Then people will focus on the large US deficits and worry over how they will be financed."

Many economists said the G-7 would prefer to see Republican George Bush as president rather than Democrat Michael Dukakis, because they fear a Democrat would not be inclined to slash government spending

and cut the budget gap.

"I don't think overseas investors have accepted what they see in the early polls, which show Dukakis leading," Mandell said.

Stephen Marris of the Institute of International Economics said the markets do not seem to believe that Dukakis will be ahead by the end of summer and so are overlooking the potential for both rising inflation and a worsening trade picture.

Mini-crisis

"If these coincide in September, we could see a new test of the dollar's highs, but of its lows," he said. "We could have a mini-crisis in the dollar."

For now the dollar is riding high. But Barclays' Mandell said the G-7 cannot afford to let the dollar rise too far. "In order not to jeopardise the improvement in external trade imbalances, they can't let this (dollar rise) go on for too long," she said.

The Bundesbank, West Germany's central bank, has been selling dollars almost daily since

late May and the Fed and other G-7 central banks are expected to sell dollars if the rise becomes "disorderly."

But after the summit West German and Japanese officials said they were not concerned by the dollar's recent rise, which was seen as a green light to bid the dollar even higher.

"I think that the G-7 has been willing to tolerate a firmer dollar for some time," said Larry Kreicher, international economist at Merrill Lynch Capital Markets Inc.

Justification

The fact that the summit communiqué followed two months of improving US trade statistics gave officials ample justification to tolerate a dollar rise, although too rapid an advance would be quickly stymied, he said.

"This is a honeymoon period for the dollar," Kreicher said. "Everyone knows the trade problem is far from solved. But for now the G-7 is saying, 'let's take a breather.'"

Jordanian Central Bank sets currency regulations

AMMAN, June 26, (AP): The Jordanian Central Bank today issued regulations aimed at attracting foreign currency and protecting the Jordanian dinar, which suffered brief slumps in early May and June.

The regulations encourage Jordanians to open foreign currency accounts in the country, but restrict operations of money changers and force banks to abide by the Central Bank's official exchange rate.

The dinar was trading at about \$2.72 today. In early May and June, the currency briefly plunged from near the \$3.00 mark to about 2.55 before the Central Bank intervened and steadied the market.

Amendments

Central Bank Governor Hussein Qasem said the rules contained only minor amendments to existing regulations, including several temporary instructions announced earlier this month to help shore up the dinar.

"We renovated these directives in one set of regulations," he told the Associated Press.

Qasem said the major new element was an increase of 50,000 dinars (\$140,000) from 30,000 dinars (\$84,000) the amount of foreign currency local residents can hold in Jordanian banks

without conditions on its use.

Other, existing regulations allow citizens to import any amounts of local or foreign currency, and let Jordanians working abroad send home any amount of foreign currency with no restrictions on its use.

The new list circulated by the official Jordan news agency also said that exporters might be allowed, on conditions, to keep export earnings in foreign currency.

Qasem also told AP that the committee on economic security had ordered enforcement of rules forbidding money changers to issue checks on accounts outside Jordan.

He said they were supposed to finance their foreign currency purchases through accounts with local banks — a rule that effectively limits any gap between the official and unofficial exchange rates.

Exceeded

Qasem said the recent slumps in the dinar market resulted from "an overreaction to our problem with Iraq," a reference to revelations that Jordanian exporters had exceeded amounts permitted in a trade protocol with Iraq and the bank's refusal to provide foreign exchange for the excess.

Saudi Arabia gears bonds to attract funds from abroad

BAHRAIN, June 26, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has pitched the return on its ground-breaking government bonds above the yield on US Treasury notes in what bankers see as a bid to attract funds back to the kingdom from overseas.

Confusion still surrounds the means of calculating the return, but following a second 1.5 billion riyal (\$400 million) offering yesterday a picture was slowly beginning to emerge.

Investment
"It's hard to predict whether the bonds will be somewhat pegged to (US) Treasury notes," said one banker. "The government will need to see how much the market wants to invest in the medium term."

The bonds are designed to help finance a projected 35.9 billion riyal (\$9.6 billion) budget deficit in 1988 and represent the first major Saudi government borrowing in 25 years.

The government has maintained a shroud of secrecy over the project, apparently to avoid antagonising Islamic groups opposed to the concept of Western-style banking and finance.

The bonds, issued in one, two, three, four and five-year maturities, have been tailored to

Islamic financial principles to avoid a ban on interest under Saudi Arabia's Islamic law.

But bankers said however the bonds are structured, they will need to offer an effective yield that compares favourably with the US government debt market, a favourite investment outlet for Saudi Arabia's cash-rich commercial banks.

Bankers said if the yields prove to have been pegged higher or consistently work out that way, the bonds scheme could help lure back to the kingdom a share of up to \$150 billion in private and government money invested abroad during the oil boom of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Some Arab capital has already returned to the region after the collapse of world stock markets last October.

The Saudi government's "development bonds" are sold to banks and redeemed at face value, but every six months pay fixed "earnings" tied to unspecified development projects.

A small sample of how the kingdom's banks had converted the earnings on the second offering to Western-style yields produced widely differing cal-

culations, sometimes varying by as much as one-tenth of one per cent.

One banker speculated that the confusion may be caused by different expectations of how much the semi-annual earnings will yield once they are reinvested.

Bankers said the return on the bonds moved on a sliding scale from around 7.8 per cent for one year to just over nine per cent for the five-year maturity.

This worked out to yield above like-dated US Treasury notes ranging from 3/10 to 3/5 of one per cent.

The returns were broadly consistent with those of the first bond offering on June 11, bankers said.

Expects

Bankers said the decision to launch a second tranche two weeks after the first seemed to indicate the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) was setting into a pattern of regular forthright offerings.

The market expects a series of issues which could total up to 30 billion riyals (\$8 billion) before the end of the year although some bonds may be placed privately with government agencies.

KD deposit rates continue firmer tone

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates continued their five-day surge yesterday as banks held long positions in the strong US dollar.

Monthly government salary payments failed to keep the short dates from rising, with overnight traded at 15 per cent from 12 per cent on Saturday.

Tomorrow and spot-next were bid at 10 per cent, with few or no offers, compared to nine, eight per cent quotes on Saturday. The one-week traded at 10 per cent.

Exchange rate
The Central Bank kept its dinar exchange rate steady as usual on Sunday at Saturday's 0.28024/34 to the dollar. But the commercial bank spot rate was marginally softer at 0.28028/33 from Saturday's 0.28023/31.

The dinar has lost 1.2 per cent of its value against the dollar over the past week, as international markets interpreted last week's Toronto communiqué of leading industrial nations as calling for a stronger US currency.

The fixed periods rose in line with the short dates but there were few or no deals. One-month funds were offered 1/2 point higher at 7-3/4, 1/4 per cent and three-month 1/4 per cent higher at seven, 6-1/2 per cent.

The Central Bank was reported to have lent two-week money at 7-1/2 per cent but the amount was small.

Six through 12-month funds were largely unchanged from Saturday at around 6-3/4, 3/8 per cent, dealers said.

Activity
Meanwhile, in Bahrain, Saudi riyal deposit rates were steady yesterday with little trade one day after the Saudi government's second 1.5 billion riyal (\$400 million) bond offering.

Dealers reported no repeat of the response which followed the first issue two weeks ago when short-term rates jumped as banks scrambled for funds to prepare for settlement.

"The market had already discounted this second issue," said one banker in Saudi Arabia.

Dealers said the market was unlikely to see much activity before Monday, after the European weekend was over.

Short-term rates were unchanged on the offer side, but fell 1/4 point on the bid, with both spot-next and one-week quoted at 7-7/8, 3/8 per cent.

The Gulf Bank weekly market review

KD exchange rates ease against dollar

Kuwait dinar
Based on last week's opening middle market foreign exchange rates, the Kuwaiti dinar rate was easier against US dollar ending the week at 278.52 fils compared with its week before last closing of 276.95 fils. Against the pound sterling, the rate was higher ending the week at 491.73 fils compared with its week before last closing of 497.74 fils. The dinar was higher against the Deutsche mark ending the week at 156.65 fils compared with the its week before last closing of 158.12 fils.

The dinar was also slightly easier against the Swiss franc ending the week at 189.40 fils compared with its week before last closing at 189.17 fils. As against the Jordanian dinar, the KD was lower ending the week at 770.46 fils compared with its week before last closing of 766.11 fils. The KD was mostly unchanged against the GCC currencies.

US dollar

The US dollar rallied sharply against other major currencies and ended the week at an eight-month high against the mark. Bullish momentum grew last week after the G-7, at the conclusion of their Toronto summit, indicated they would tolerate a rise in the US dollar as long as it was not destabilising to the adjustment process.

The G-7 has said this before, but a backdrop of firm US interest rates and improving US trade data gave the statement added impact. The dollar was also underpinned by a report that the US economy grew a little less quickly at 3.6 per cent in the first estimated at 3.9 per cent.

The White House said the US economy would grow more rapidly in the rest of the year than previously forecast and that the healthy outlook vindicated the policies of the Reagan administration.

Other factors behind the dollar's rally were the continued unwinding of long yen-short mark positions after the Bundesbank raised by 25 basis points the rate at which it offers one month funds and lack of concerted intervention to hold it down.

There is growing debate over when central banks would all intervene to curb the dollar's rise, and if indeed they would at all. Some say the G-7 would still seek to keep the dollar within definite bands and speculate the 1.85 mark level might trigger massive and concerted intervention while others disagree and think that central banks will moderate the market in their own traditional way.

The dollar's strength is likely to continue until the end of the month as dealers seek to book high dollar rates at the end of the half year. However, narrower interest rate differentials or a bad set of US trade figure could cap the dollar, or the central banks will intervene aggressively if the market appears to ignore underlying fundamentals.

Japanese yen

The yen was sharply weaker against the US dollar and breached the 130 yen level. It opened the week at 126.25/30 yen and closed considerably lower at 130.45/55 yen on firmer US dollar, underpinned by bullish sentiment, against its week before last closing of 125.72/77 yen.

Vice-Finance Minister Nishigaki said there had been no change in the G-7's stance on currency stability and attributed the dollar's rise to market perceptions of an improving US trade deficit, stable US consumer prices and the reconfirmation by the summit of the G-7's currency stance.

Deutsche mark

The mark ended the week sharply lower at an eight-month low against the US dollar at 1.8145-55 marks compared to the week before last closing of 1.7490/95 marks, after opening the week at 1.7598/03 marks. The mark failed to gain support from a rise in the Bundesbank's key securities repurchase rate to 3.50 per cent from 3.25 per cent and speculation persists that it will raise its discount rate to 3 per cent from 2.50 per cent soon.

The Bundesbank has said it does not want the mark to weaken further. In its June monthly report it noted that the mark's value against major currencies had fallen to levels seen at the end of 1986.

If the mark continues to weaken further in the coming weeks, W. German interest rates rises are inevitable, as relatively low interest rates have helped to undermine the mark.

Pound sterling

The pound sterling weakened sharply last week as the shift of focus towards the dollar which is freed at least temporarily from concern that central banks would cap its advance, resulted in a loss of ground for sterling. The half-point rise in UK clearing bank base lending rates to 9 per cent on Wednesday was discounted by the market and the pound failed to gain any real advantage.

The rise was the third in less than one month and was intended to keep monetary conditions tight to bear down on inflation. The pound opened the week at \$1.7845/52 and closed sharply down at \$1.7265/75 compared to its week before last closing at \$1.7830/40.

French franc

The French franc opened the week against the US dollar at 5.9345/65 franc and closed sharply lower at 6.1095/25 francs compared to its week before last closing at 5.8960/90 francs. The franc remained firm against the mark at 336.29/64 francs per 100, taking advantage of the strong US dollar and the weak mark, with no fresh domestic reason to explain the franc's firmness.

Swiss franc

The Swiss franc opened the week against the US dollar at 1.4620/30 francs and closed sharply lower at 1.5030/40 francs compared to its week before last closing of 1.4540/50 francs.

Oil prices

Oil prices fell slightly in the world markets last week. Spot prices for North Sea Brent crude were between \$15.00-16.45 range, compared with \$15.45-16.45 range recorded the week before last. Prices for July cargoes were between \$15.15-16.45 range compared with \$15.55-16.45 range recorded the week before last.

Oil prices are likely to come under more pressures especially if some OPEC members were to give price discounts to major buyers in order to increase their sales in a market which is still characterized by a worldwide surplus of crude oil.

Precious metals

Precious metals prices weakened considerably last week as the US dollar's sharp advance put heavy pressure on prices. Markets kept a close eye on signs of inflationary pressure as drought continues to affect US Midwest.

Gold

Gold bullion prices opened the week at \$453.40/90 and ended lower at \$443/44.50, recording losses of around \$7 compared to its week before last closing of \$450/45.25.

Silver

Silver bullion prices opened the week at \$7.26/7.28 and closed lower at \$6.83/6.85, losing 26 cents on average over the previous week's closing of \$7.09/7.11. The market continued to mirror movements in US futures where downward pressure was being applied by a firmer dollar.

Platinum

Platinum opened the week at \$585.50/587.50 and closed sharply lower at \$554/556, recording sharp losses of \$23.50 over the previous week's closing of \$577.50/578.50.

World stocks

Wall Street stock prices strengthened over the week to reach their highest levels on June 22 since Black Monday on a surge of institutional buying sparked by a stronger dollar, falling bond market yield and a more positive inflation outlook, before drifting lower later in the week on profit-taking after the market's sharp rise earlier in the week.

The Dow Jones industrial average opened the week at 2083, reached a post crash high of 2152, before closing at 2145, recording a sharp gain of 41 points over the week before last closing of 2104. Share prices on London Stock Exchange followed a similar pattern and firmed in response to a surge on Wall Street.

The FTSE-100 opened the week at 1846, reached a high of 1878 before ending the week at 1873, recording sharp gains of 23 points over the week before last closing of 1850.

Egypt approves deficit budget

CAIRO, June 26, (Reuters): The Egyptian parliament today approved a budget for 1988-89 aimed at curbing government spending but also forecasting a record deficit.

The 458-member People's Assembly, dominated by President Hosni Mubarak's ruling National Democratic Party (NDP), also endorsed projects for the second year of Egypt's 1987-1992 plan.

The government said it planned to save an unspecified amount by tighter controls on official trips abroad, saving energy, cutting spending on advertising and banning new telephones in government offices.

But it also pledged to increase wages and pensions by 15 per cent for about five million civil servants, among Egypt's lowest-paid workers, during the new fiscal year starting on Friday.

The new budget projects a deficit of 7.21 billion pounds (\$13.13 billion), a rise of 46 per cent over this year, to be partly financed by domestic and foreign borrowing of 1.7 billion pounds (\$740 million).

Government expenditure is forecast at 28.7 billion pounds (\$12.5 billion) up 24 per cent, against a 19 per cent increase in revenue to 21.5 billion pounds (\$9.3 billion).

The budget attributed 2.3 billion pounds (\$1 billion) of the forecast deficit to a new foreign exchange system introduced in May last year which led to a de facto devaluation.

Under the system, a bankers' committee sets a daily "market rate" now accepted as the only rate for most purposes to channel transactions through the official banking system instead of the black market.

The official rate now stands at about 2.3 pounds to the dollar. But the government has told the International Monetary Fund (IMF) it cannot afford to scrap an artificially-low rate of 0.70 pounds used to finance imports of basic subsidised foods like wheat, sugar, tea and cooking oil.

The budget allocated 1.8 billion pounds (\$783 million) to subsidise basic supplies for the poor.

Fearing repetition of food

riots which flared in 1977 after price hikes that were later repealed, the government has vowed not to bow to IMF pressure to scrap subsidies.

But it has raised prices of key goods and services including petrol, telephone calls, cigarettes, gas, domestic appliances and several basic foods as part of a reform programme agreed with the IMF in May last year.

The IMF is reviewing Egypt's performance under the accord, which paved the way for Paris Club rescheduling of Egyptian debt payments to Western governments from January last year to the end of this month.

Government officials say Egypt is likely to seek another rescheduling for payments due from July 1 until the end of 1989.

Budget documents said the government had earmarked 5.2 billion pounds (\$2.3 billion) to service foreign and domestic debts.

Most of the money was allocated for payments on rescheduled foreign debts and will go into a special central bank account to be used after five-year grace periods expire.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.910	0.910	0.920	0.910	1345000	53
GULF BANK	0.400	0.420	0.420	0.400	5390000	151
COMMERCIAL BK	0.320	0.330	0.335	0.325	5830000	171
ARAB BANK	0.375	0.385	0.390	0.380	3110000	115
B.K.M.E	0.380	0.385	0.400	0.380	830000	33
K.R.E.B.	0.460	0.460	0.460	0.455	370000	7
BURJAN BANK	0.300	0.315	0.320	0.300	6170000	229
K.F.HOUSE	0.465	0.485	0.485	0.470	1810000	55
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KVT INV. CO.	0.178	0.184	0.184	0.180	260000	8
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.168	0.176	0.178	0.170	2160000	45
CON.FACILITIES	0.455	0.455	0.455	0.450	200000	2
ARABIAN INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.106	0.108	0.108	0.106	380000	7
INV. PEARL KWT	0.108	0.110	0.110	0.108	2860000	48
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KVT INSURANCE	0.690	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.330	---	---	---	---	---
ARABIA INS. CO.	0.560	0.570	0.570	0.570	90000	4
MARSA INS. CO.	0.460	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KVT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.226	0.230	0.230	0.226	340000	12
UNIT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	580000	14
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.216	0.220	0.222	0.214	500000	14
SALAHIA R.E.	0.075	---	---	---	---	---
KVT PROJECTS	0.088	0.089	0.089	0.087	160000	4
KVT R.E.I.T.CO	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.480	---	---	---	---	---
KVT M.P. IND.	0.290	---	---	---	---	---
KVT CEMENT CO.	0.240	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.400	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.050	---	---	---	---	---
K.PH.IND. CO.	0.220	0.224	0.224	0.224	180000	6
COINT.MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
K.SH.REP.CO.	0.042	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
K.N.C.C. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KVT HOTELS CO.	0.156	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.178	0.188	0.190	0.180	1140000	33
W.M.PKT. CHPX.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	1040000	29
MOBILE TELE.	0.430	0.415	0.415	0.400	200000	50
KVT COMPUTER	0.188	0.188	0.188	0.186	120000	3
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.240	0.230	0.230	0.226	200000	5
UNTD FISHERIES	0.156	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.228	---	---	---	---	---
KVT FOODS	0.300	0.295	0.295	0.295	10000	4
AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KVT SECTOR						
BHN.INTER.BK	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.067	1800000	17
BHN.M.EAST.BK	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	320000	3
UNTD.GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	3080000	43
A.G.INV.CORP	0.036	0.036	0.036	0.036	1800000	12
FIRST.GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.T.G.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INV.CO.	0.055	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INTL INS	0.009	---	---	---	---	---
ARAB INT CO.	0.051	---	---	---	---	---
SHARJAH INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS	0.070	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-GULF MEDICAL	0.020	---	---	---	---	---
C-R.K.WRITE CMNT	0.021	---	---	---	---	---
D-AMJAN CEMENT	0.007	---	---	---	---	---
E-FUJAIRAH CEMT	0.007	---	---	---	---	---
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
G-GULF CEMENT	0.016	---	---	---	---	---
H-UMM QATUAIN	0.021	---	---	---	---	---

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ACCOMMODATION

Available

KHEITAN, adjacent to Granada Cinema. Fully furnished room in a flat with electricity, water and telephone. Facilities from 15th July for one bachelor. Rent KD50. Tele. 4749624.

(AT1-42924-3)

SALMIYA, sharing accommodation available for one bachelor. Tele. Mr. Roberts, 5742845.

(AT3-42960-3)

SALWA, required immediately European/American female to share a spacious flat with 2 others. Rent KD 100. Tele. 5724895, Karen, 4835802, work, 5654368 Res. Helen.

(AT1-42927-3)

KUWAIT City, near the Sheraton Hotel. One good room in a villa, sharing all facilities. Rent KD95 all inclusive. Tele. 2418017, 1-3 pm, after 8 pm.

(AT3-42952-3)

MISHRIF, deluxe, CAC, fully carpeted floor of villa; 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living and dining area, large fitted kitchen including private carpark. Rent KD 325. Tele. 5391720, 5382783.

(AT4-42869-6)

SALWA, deluxe half villa; 3 bedrooms, big lounge, kitchen and 2 bathrooms, fully carpeted with curtains, telephone and servant's quarter with separate entrance. Tele. owner, 5639330.

(AT2-42945-3)

ANDALUS, detached deluxe CAC 2 bedroom apartment, villa type with private entrance and a small garden. Rent KD200. Tele. 5319627, 2-8 pm.

(AT2-42935-3)

KING Faisal Street, 2 deluxe apartments with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 big saloons, CAC with or without furniture. Tele. 2437653, 2452171, 2452172.

(AT1-42920-3)

BAYAN, Area 3, House 3, Street 3, Deluxe flat, 1st floor. Requires 3 month's rent in advance. Tele. 2404834, 2540225, 5383723.

(AT3-42951-3)

BAYAN, Area 5, deluxe, CAC, fully carpeted top floor of villa comprising 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living and dining area and fitted kitchen, including private entrance and a garden. Rent KD250. Tele. 5391720.

(AT3-42962-3)

Wanted

FARWANIYA, close to the Holiday Inn, 3 bachelors require to share one room with a Christian family with kitchen facilities from August 1. Tele. Marshal, 4741800 ext. 140, 7.30 am-12.45 pm, 4840072, 4-8 pm.

(AT3-42957-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

ALL household goods including living room and dining room furniture, excellent piano and small appliances. Tele. 5313485 anytime.

(AT1-42933-3)

LARGE fish tank — complete with fish, Spanish guitar, Atari with 15 games. All are in excellent condition, hardly used. Also assorted toys and games. Tele. Mr. Richard, 5757308, after 1 pm.

(AT3-R-TM-3)

MISHRIF, Deluxe, CAC independent floor of a villa with private entrance, comprising 2 bedrooms, living and dining area, 2 bathrooms and a large fitted kitchen with or without furniture. Tele. 5381205.

(AT3-42949-6)

FULLY furnished two-bedroom flat behind the Telecommunication Building, Abbasiya, available from 1/8/88. New Rent KD110. Tele. 2408921/2, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-6 pm.

(AT3-42947-3)

SALMIYA near Mowasat Hospital: CAC, 2 bedroom apartment with furniture and tele. For sale. Rent KD200. Tele. 5719217 after 6 pm, 5727969.

(AT1-42926-3)

SOFA SET, dining-table with 6 chairs, single bed with mattress, cooking range and cupboard. All are in good condition. Tele. 3720324, after 6 pm.

(AT3-42961-2)

SHOP No.s 19-24 in an excellent location in Watya Souk behind Sheraton for sale. Tele. Mr. Saoud 4843025, 4843825.

(AT1-IM-TM-3)

AMERICAN classics, a TV set (7 system) with a video set (4 system) including French system and a Sony video projector. Tele. Mr. Ali 2637733, 9 am-1 pm.

(AT1-42928-3)

Cars

SAAB 900 Turbo 16 valve, 85 model, silver, in excellent condition. For further information Tele. 2413200 ext 757 upto 1 pm, 5518267, 4-8 pm.

(AT2-42938-3)

MAZDA 626 GLX, 1985 Oct. Automatic with AC, white, 58000 kms. 5-door (hatchback), insured up to October. In excellent condition. KD1500 ono. Tele. Masud, 4873243.

(AT3-42948-3)

HONDA Prelude 1984, automatic, new engine, 2000 kms ago with AC in very good condition. KD1475 ono., cash. Tele. 2437387, anytime.

(AT1-42932-3)

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Must be fluent in Arabic and English, writing and typing.
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For Sale
A road-sweeper 'advance' Mazda half lorry, model 84. A trailer (used less & all in good condition)
Contact tel: 2414266

FOR RENT
Salwa area
3 bmn. flats with large living and dining area, beautiful fitted kitchen, carpets, curtains plus tel. facility. Rent KD375/- per month.
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In association with JCV Property Services U.K.
Tel: 5744017 - 5744018, from: 9 am to 5 pm.

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MARKET PLACE

NISSAN Cherry '81, 63,000 kms, registered up to June 89, single owner, lady driven, gold colour. In excellent condition. KD450, ono. Tele. Tony, 4819188, 4819190.

(AT3-42959-3)

TOYOTA Corona 1800, 74 model, automatic with AC, insured for one year, low mileage in good condition. Tele. 4817784, 9 am-12 noon, 3-6.30 pm.

(AT1-ESS-TM-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

OFFICE boy required. Must be educated, speak English and have a transferable residence. Please apply with CV, photograph and passport copy to P.O. Box 22775, Safat 13088 Kuwait.

(AT1-KP-TM-3)

MAID required, for household duties to live-in. Must speak English or Konkani. Residence can be provided. Tele. 2462275, 8 am-1 pm.

(AT1-42797-3)

Wanted

MAID, with references seeks part-time job with European or Arab families, preferably in Bayan or Mishrif area. Tele. Mary, 5381489, 10 am - 2 pm.

(AT3-42956-2)

LOST

SIAMESE cat, male with black collar. Finder please Tele. 5621701, 5622701, 8 am-1 pm. Child is heartbroken.

(AT1-42929-3)

PASSPORT No. S792850 in the name of Dorothy Lily Rodriguez, Indian. Finder please Tele. 5758992, after 5 pm.

(AT1-42922-3)

SERVICES

Transport

REQUIRED from Abbasiya to Kuwait City at 12.30 pm and 4-7 pm in AC transport. Tele. Stan, 2433004.

(AT1-42931-3)

Hadid Ligaya offers free delivery in provinces.
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2447529
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REQUIRED A gents' tailor for a tailoring shop.
Applicant must have a transferable residence.
Farwaniya - Al Muthanna St - Behind the popular markets — Hassan Commercial Center bldg. Tel. 4738093 Raza Smak.

REQUIRED Temporary Secretary
80 days approx, starting 27.7.88, one shift. Good knowledge of English is essential.
Contact now. Tel: 4843148 (8 am - 1 pm)

REQUIRED Driver
With a private Kuwaiti driving licence. Must have a transferable residence.
Tel. Mr. Abu Samra, 9037095

REQUIRED Female Secretary for an officer — Filipina, Sri Lankan or Indian.
★ Plumber
★ Driver
★ Carpenter
★ Wall painters
Contact Souk Al Maseel, Office No 75 from 9 am-12 noon.

REQUIRED White Rose Restaurant
announces its new attraction of vegetarian and non-vegetarian 'Thali' of 6 different delicious items including 'Lassi'.
Chicken tikka and seekh kabab are also available.
Contact tele. 5632863

REQUIRED White Rose Restaurant
announces its new attraction of vegetarian and non-vegetarian 'Thali' of 6 different delicious items including 'Lassi'.
Chicken tikka and seekh kabab are also available.
Contact tele. 5632863

REQUIRED for a lady from Kheitan near (Cinema Granada) to Kuwait City (Salmiya Complex) and back, 8 am-1 pm, 4.30-7.30 pm. Tele. 4745447, 4745448.

(AT2-42934-3)

AVAILABLE from Salmiya to Shuwaikh and Kuwait City, for ministry and companies working hours. Tele. 5628607.

(AT2-42937-2)

Tuition

FRENCH lady offers lessons with conversation at her home (for ladies and children) Why not study French during the holidays? Tele. 5381318

(AT3-42954-2)

FOR RENT
Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with basement, KD800, Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with carpet, KD600, Mishrif — 3 bedrooms with carpet, KD500, Bayan — 4 bedrooms, KD700, Sarra — 3 bedrooms, KD500
Deluxe villa with swimming pool, KD1100 plus many villas and flats in all areas.
Qatar Real Estate
Tel: 2408592, 2408593

FOR RENT
Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with basement, KD800, Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with carpet, KD600, Mishrif — 3 bedrooms with carpet, KD500, Bayan — 4 bedrooms, KD700, Sarra — 3 bedrooms, KD500
Deluxe villa with swimming pool, KD1100 plus many villas and flats in all areas.
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Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with basement, KD800, Mishrif — 4 bedrooms with carpet, KD600, Mishrif — 3 bedrooms with carpet, KD500, Bayan — 4 bedrooms, KD700, Sarra — 3 bedrooms, KD500
Deluxe villa with swimming pool, KD1100 plus many villas and flats in all areas.
Qatar Real Estate
Tel: 2408592, 2408593

PETS

CHINESE pug puppies, black and beige colour for sale. Tele. 3983026, after 2 pm.

(AT4-42876-6)

NAME CHANGE

I, RAJU ADULURU, holder of Indian passport No. VV 271701 embraced Islam and changed my name to Abdulla Aduluru

(AT3-42950-3)

FOR RENT
Villas, half villas, buildings, and flats with or without swimming pool.
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یادری نسل کو ہمیشہ کے لیے اچھی کتاب کے پیرز
ہو تو اسے نصاب میں شامل کر دیجئے

مہشاق احمدیوسف کی تصنیف خاتم بدھنی سے اقتباسات

[illegible][illegible]

۱۔ **میں نے جیسا بنا دیا تو کار کو کچے چھین**
 ۲۔ **میں نے جس طرح سے بنی ہے۔ سو ہی بنے گا**
 ۳۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۴۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۵۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۶۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۷۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۸۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۹۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**
 ۱۰۔ **میں نے جیسا بنایا ہے اس کی حقیقت کو**

برج ثور

(۱۹ اپریل تا ۱۹ مئی)

آپ کو جگہ کرنا ہے کہ اسے کرنے میں آپ کو
 چھکچھاہٹ محسوس کریں گے آپ خود کو
 خوش کرنے کے لئے کہہ اور مزاج فراہم کریں۔
 اس اور پر فائدہ دیں جو کل میں آج۔ احوال پسندی
 سے ہمیں۔


روح جو راز
(۲۰ مئی تا ۲۰ جون)

آپ ایک ایسے شخص سے قانع اظہا کس گے۔
دوسروں کے ساتھ بھی طرح طرح آئیں گے۔ اپنی
عشق کی جڑ بہت زیادہ کھالے پر چڑھ کریں۔ دوسروں
فیضال دیکھیں۔

حکمران

(۲۱ جون تا ۲۱ جولائی)


آپ کسی کی سطیحات سے کچھ فائدہ اٹھا سکتے ہیں۔ اپنے لئے وہ آپ کے اعداء ضرور خطر کر لیں گے۔ ان کے لئے یہ تو ہے کہ بہت زیادہ باغ و بانس ہو۔ لیکن غالباً سب سے زیادہ ضرورت ممبروں کو ملتی ہے۔ زیادہ


درج اسد
 (۲۲ جولائی تا ۲۱ اگست)
 آج کے دن بہت سارے واقعات رونما ہوں گے
 جسے کسی سرخ جاکت پر سنہ چاہیں۔ اچھا بندہ
 ہونے کو اپنے دل پر قابض کرے گا۔ آگے دیکھیں۔ دوسرے
 دن۔

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محبوبہ ابرار
 انفرادی طور پر ایک حلقہ کار خیر سوسائٹی
 دہلی، برصغیر، کے لئے پیکار کر رہی ہیں۔ ان کا
 ۲۲۹۹۹۸-۱۱-۱۱ ۱۱ بجے پیکار کر رہے ہیں اور ان کے
 ۲۲۹۹۹۸-۱۱-۱۱ ۱۱ بجے پیکار کر رہے ہیں اور ان کے

عزت اعلیٰ
 بہت اعلیٰ



برج محل

(۲۰ مارچ ۱۸۶۱ء لاہور)

آپ خود کو جس صورت حال میں پائیں گے اس سے پہلے ہی میں تمہیں لے آئی کہ جس شخص نے مرے لئے جہنم کی درکھ پائی ہے اور اس کی ہوائے گار خود بخود زیادہ اختیار کریں۔ وہاں میری اختیار کریں۔

لے آئی کہ جس شخص نے مرے جہنم کی درکھ پائی ہے اور اس کی ہوائے گار خود بخود زیادہ اختیار کریں۔ وہاں میری اختیار کریں۔

○ کی صورت کو بخود ہے۔

○ جس شخص نے مرے جہنم کی درکھ پائی ہے اور اس کی ہوائے گار خود بخود زیادہ اختیار کریں۔ وہاں میری اختیار کریں۔

○ اعزاز و سب سے ہے۔

○ جس شخص نے مرے جہنم کی درکھ پائی ہے اور اس کی ہوائے گار خود بخود زیادہ اختیار کریں۔ وہاں میری اختیار کریں۔

2406222 2406333 3429870 4310505	قربان سرفاٹ کی حالت میں
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یہاں پر بھی سوشلسٹ پارٹی کی قیادت میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہو گیا ہے۔

ایران "سری نکادور جو گولادیہ ان ممالک میں سے ہے۔ کوئٹہ جلدی رہتا تھا ہے۔ واکرائی کی پہلی فیصلہ نامی کا کہہ کر حملہ پہلے کے سپر کوریجس نے اپنے اجلاس غم کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا اور تحقیقاتی شب اختتام کا اعلان۔ آخری سرطانی اس بار لئی روایت کا سامنا کرنا پڑا کہ یہ سب کے لئے جو مسائل خودروں سے کسی حالت

بقیہ۔ رچہ ڈومنی

سلا امریکہ کے زیرِ غور ہے آئس اس قومن میں چلے رفت
 ہے انہوں نے دوسرے میں اخبار کو لکھوں کو کتاب کے شرقی
 کے سیکرے برعالمی امن کا نظرس کے لئے امریکہ کے پچھے
 کو ششیں شروع کر دی ہیں لیکن اس کی نوعیت پر سوچتے
 کے اختلاف ہے انہوں نے کہا کہ کا نظرس کی مرضی کے
 فریق پر سلا میں کی جانی چاہئے جبکہ ماکو سے علا
 مشفق کے لئے فصل کے پختہ چاہئے اس لئے

میں نے اس وقت اس کے لئے ہر ممکن تدبیریں اختیار کیں۔ لیکن اس کے باوجود اس کی حالت اب بھی بہتر نہیں ہو سکی۔ اس کے لئے میں نے اس کے لئے ہر ممکن تدبیریں اختیار کیں۔ لیکن اس کے باوجود اس کی حالت اب بھی بہتر نہیں ہو سکی۔ اس کے لئے میں نے اس کے لئے ہر ممکن تدبیریں اختیار کیں۔ لیکن اس کے باوجود اس کی حالت اب بھی بہتر نہیں ہو سکی۔

بقیہ۔ اسرائیل پہ لیل او

زبان بند رکھنی چاہئے کیونکہ اس طرح ہر سے بچنے کی
 سکتی ہے جبکہ میری معلومات کے مطابق وہ زندہ اور
 سلامت ہے۔ ’میرے من کے مطابق لیل او سے بچنے
 والے اسرائیلی حکام کو بھی ہم کہہ سکتے ہیں کیونکہ اسرائیلی
 افسر اسرائیلی وزیر خارجہ جان کٹز سے مطالبہ کر چکے ہیں
 اس کاغذ سے لئے لیل او کی بجائے اس اور
 حکومت کا کہنا ہے کہ اسرائیلی حکومت

بقیہ۔ فلسطینی تحریضیں

شامی فوج کی ایک چٹکی پر ایک جھلا ہوا گولہ آکر گر کر
 سے تین شامی فوجی ہلاک ہوئے فلسطینی ذرائع کے
 حریف فلسطینی گروہوں کے درمیان گولہ باری کے تبادلے
 دوران یہ گولہ فلسطینی فوجیوں کے سوراخ پر جا گر کر
 ذرائع نے کہا کہ عراق کے حامیوں کے مخالف ابو
 گروپ کے ایک کمانڈر کی شہادت سے آج تھوڑا سا

شریعہ لڑائی شروع ہونے کا موجب بنی انہوں نے کہا سوئی کے حامی فدا بین کے شاہکار میں عرقات گروپ پوزیشنوں پر قبضہ کر لیا اور وہیں کیپٹن کے گرد و شاہی فوجیوں وقت سے دشمنوں میں جب پچھلے سال انہوں نے نقلینہ میں اہل خطیہ میں لڑائی بند کرانے کے لئے دہشت گردی کے لئے گولے اتر چوتھ روز پر مگر ہے جو شہادت فوج کے زخمی ہے ظاہر کر گئے ہے اسے شہداء ایک کلیدی سرک پر پڑی ہے کی نشانیوں پر خون کے دیے دیکھے گئے۔

بقیہ۔ مدام حسین

دکھائی دیتے ہیں، ہر سکا سے کہ عراق اپنا تمام راز نہیں
ابریہیں کو کوال باہر کرے مگر ابراہین کو کھلے
بجود کرنے کے لئے انھیں قاتل نہ ہو گا کیس کا یہ لائی
کہ اپنا موقع تبدیل نہیں کریں گے ایک ہی چیز
لکھ کر کا کتا سے عراق کی حالیہ کامیابی نے
کو حوصلہ بخیر کر دے ہیں مگر اس کا یہ مطلب نہیں
ہے کہ وہ عراق کے خلاف ہر حربہ و سازش تک جاری
انہوں نے کیا ہے جنگ بھی شروع ہو رہا ہے تک جاری

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بقیہ۔ کہتے ہیں کہ

بقیہ
کویت اطاح

[illegible][illegible]

الحمد لله رب العالمين

یہ کیا وہ شخص جس کا یہ اللہ نے اسلام
کے لئے کھول دیا اور وہ اپنے رب کی طرف
یک روشنی پر چل رہا ہے (اس شخص کی
جو سکتا ہے جس نے ان باتوں سے کوئی
نہ لیا)۔ جتنی ہے ان لوگوں کے لئے
کہ دل اللہ کی نصیحت سے اور زیادہ سخت
ہو چکی گریں میں بڑے ہوئے ہیں۔


(سورة الزمر آیت ۲۲)



حدیث نبوی

حضرت سیدنا محمد مصطفیٰ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی خدمت میں حاضر ہوا۔ اس حال میں سواک کا کنارہ آپ کی طرف تھا۔ (الفاظ مسلم کے ہیں)

(بخاری و مسلم)



عقل و دانش
..... پل قدی، کسی کام کو بغیر کے صحیح
نجام دیئے کا نام ہے۔
و کزینو گو (فرانسیسی ادیب)
شعر و ادب

آج کے دن

۱۰۔ امریکا کے مجاہدوں نے جرمنی کے

..... اتحادی قوتوں نے جنگ عظیم
میں جاپان کو شکست دے کر لیا۔
..... امریکہ سے یونین اور
کمزورائے خارجہ نے ڈوڈیچینز
ملٹی سے یونان کو اور شمالی اٹلی کا علاقہ
کوڈے دیا۔

قائم تھوہ کے سیکرٹری جنرل نے ممبر
جنوبی کوریائی کی کوریائی کے ساتھ لڑائی
کرنے پر زور دیا اور کی صدر ٹرومن نے
فوس اور نیوی کو کوریائی جنگ میں
دینے کا حکم دیا۔

کرمی کے منہ

حق مدار کے مقابلے میں غیر ملکی
 کی قیمت حسب ذیل رہی۔

فی روپے (فی ہزار) ۱۵ - ۲۶۵
 روپے (فی ہزار) ۲۰ - ۴۳۵

۹-۰۰۲۰	(فیض آباد)
۱۳-۳۳۰	(فیض آباد)
۲۸۱-۰۰۲۰	(فیض آباد)
۳۸۷-۰۰۰۰	(فیض آباد)
۷۳-۵۰۰	(فیض آباد)
۷۶-۵۰۰	(فیض آباد)
۷۳-۹۸۰	(فیض آباد)

۷۷-۱۰۰ (فی ہزار) ریال
۷۳-۰۰۰ (فی ہزار) ریال

۱۷۔ ۷ گانے ۳۰۔ ۷ اخباروں کے
۳۰۔ ۷ اسلام اور دور حاضر ۸۰۰
۱۵۔ ۸ آج کا انتخاب ۲۰۔ ۸ گانے
۸ عربی سیکھے ۳۰۔ ۸ ہمارے مہمان
اختتام

Dodgers fight back to outlast tough Reds

NEW YORK, June 26, (AP): The Los Angeles Dodgers proved last night that a little hope and a lot of base hits can overcome even a three-homer inning.

The Dodgers were rocked in the bottom of the first inning when left-hander Fernando Valenzuela was chased after allowing three homers and four runs. But they put together six hits of their own in the second to score five runs and beat the Reds 6-4.

Mike Marshall had three hits, including a key two-run single in the five-run second, to help Los Angeles overcome Valenzuela's shortest Major League start.

"You've just got to hope for the big inning," Marshall said. "That's all you can do. You don't get it very often. You've got to get back in the game right away or usually it's over. We put a couple of hits together and got the big inning."

Brian Holton, 3-1, threw one pitch to get the last out in the first inning. Alejandro Pena was 3-2 in three innings and struck out five and Jesse Orosco threw one pitch to get the game's final out for his fifth save.

Cubs 5, Mets 2
Ryne Sandberg's third hit of the game, a tie-breaking single in Chicago's three-run eighth inning, carried the Chicago Cubs to a 5-2 victory over the New York Mets in a game played in 103-degree heat. Reliever Les Lancaster, 4-4, was the winner.

Pirates 5, Expos 1
John Smiley pitched a five-hitter and Barry Bonds doubled to spark a four-run third inning as the Pittsburgh Pirates defeated the Montreal Expos 5-1.

Braves 8, Padres 4
Dale Murphy hit a two-run single during a four-run fifth inning and the Atlanta Braves beat the San Diego Padres 8-4 in a rain-delayed game. Four singles, including one by Murphy, knocked out Jimmy Jones, 5-7. Reliever Charlie Puleo, 1-3, got the victory.

Cardinals 4, Phillies 1
Jose DeLeon pitched a four-hitter and rookie Luis Alcala and Willie McGee each got three hits as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Philadelphia Phillies 4-1. Kevin Gross, 8-3, gave up 11 hits in seven innings.

Giants 4, Astros 1
Mike Krukow pitched a three-hitter and Jose Uribe doubled and tripled and drove in two runs as the San Francisco Giants defeated the Houston Astros 4-1. Krukow, 6-4, struck out four and walked one as he pitched his first regular-season complete game since last July 29.

Athletics 4, Twins 3
Jose Canseco hit his Major League-leading 19th homer, a three-run shot in the third inning, and his four RBI gave right-hander Bob Welch and the Oakland Athletics a 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Twins. Welch, 9-4, yielded seven hits and three runs, while striking out five.

Yankees 4, Indians 1
Jack Clark hit a tie-breaking, two-run homer in the third inning and helped Tommy John to his 282nd career victory as the New York Yankees defeated the Cleveland Indians 4-1 and handed Greg Swindell his fifth consecutive setback.

Results

National League	American League
Chicago 5, New York 2	Baltimore 3
Los Angeles 6, Cincinnati 4	Detroit 19
Pittsburgh 5, Montreal 4	Oakland 4
San Diego 4, St. Louis 4	New York 4
Philadelphia 1, Houston 4	Minnesota 3
	Chicago 10
	Milwaukee 7
	Seattle 7
	Kansas City 3

Pumas beat France to square series

BUENOS AIRES, June 26, (Reuters): France failed to tame a tenacious Argentine pack and crashed to an 18-6 defeat in the second Rugby Union Test yesterday as the Pumas squared the series.

In a hard-fought match in which the forwards looked at the end as if they had been through Olympic boxing qualifiers, scrumhalf Daniel Baetti kicked the Pumas to victory.

Slotted
Baetti, a late addition to the Argentine squad and playing in only his second test at scrumhalf after five caps at fullback, slotted home six penalties — some from almost the halfway line with a relaxed short-run-up that belied the strength of his kick.

Wing Philippe Berot replied with two penalties as the fast French backs were held at bay by the determined tackling of the Pumas defence in a repeat of their performance in the first Test that France won 18-15.

French second row forward Alain Llorieux was sent off near the end for fighting with Alejandro Iachetti who bled from the

BRUNO SEES FLAWS IN UNDISPUTED WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION

Tyson will stop Spinks in three rounds: Cooney

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., June 26, (Reuters): "Gentleman" Gerry Cooney, living up to his nickname since Michael Spinks forced him into retirement with a vicious beating a year ago, says Mike Tyson will stop Spinks in three rounds in their heavy-weight title fight tomorrow.

"No, I don't think no great shakes about Spinks," said Cooney, who was stopped in the fifth round after Spinks pummeled him with nearly a dozen unanswered blows here last June. "I don't think much of Michael Spinks at all — at all," he said.

Despite Spinks being 31-0 and beating who?

"No, nothing. Tyson will take him out in three rounds," Cooney told Reuters yesterday. "I think he's going to knock his head off."

"I think that if I was fighting Michael Spinks the way I fought (Larry) Holmes, or the way I fought a (Ken) Norton, or the way I fought a Jimmy Young — those types of guys, I'd have blown Michael Spinks out of there," Cooney said.

"But I was stale that night. I had no movement. I can't really explain it. It happens sometimes," Cooney said. "I could always turn it on," he said, referring to the staleness that sometimes comes after years of fighting.

"The difference between a club fighter and a world-class fighter, is 10 per cent. A world-class fighter can bring it out from within, to shift into fourth gear, and I couldn't even get into second gear," Cooney said.

While boxing's former "white hope" predicted a Tyson victory, he said the champion's much-publicised personal problems — including charges, which he denies, that he beat his wife of four months and that his mother-in-law is trying to take his money — "will haunt him."

Cooney does not think Tyson's problems — which also include a feud with his manager — will hurt him tomorrow "because I think in this fight he has a lot of aggression because of it (problems). But the continuing strain is going to drain him and affect him."

"I think Mike Tyson is being pulled from so many directions from so many undermining people that he's so confused, he doesn't know what to do," Cooney said.

Cooney knows about being pulled by people. At 19, after his alcoholic and abusive father died, it was up to Cooney to try and help raise his five brothers and sisters.

"Hey, I didn't know how to raise myself," Cooney, 31, said. But he became a heavyweight contender, posting a 28-2 professional record.

He lost only to Larry Holmes and Spinks and made "a lot of money," which he managed to

hold on to because "I had everyone watching everyone."

Cooney says he does not miss being a fighter "at all."

Meanwhile, Briton Frank Bruno, signed to fight Tyson in London next September, said he sees flaws in Tyson's style but still picks the undisputed world heavyweight champion to beat Spinks.

Bruno, 26, said that "I would bet my house" on a Tyson victory, but added that he "wasn't a betting man. I don't think this fight will go 12 rounds as advertised."

"Tyson is a good young, explosive fighter, but there are flaws that I can see. Just don't ask me what they are — not until September 4, anyway," Bruno said.

All-rounder David Capel replaces Derek Pringle and left-arm spinner Nick Cook has been brought in to the squad in place of paceman Gladstone Small who was not considered because of a thigh strain.

Essex paceman Neil Foster was not considered after admitting he was not yet ready for Test cricket following his pre-season knee operation.

England — John Emburey (captain), Graham Gooch, Chris Broad, Martyn Moxon, Mike Gatting, David Gower, Allan Lamb, David Capel, Paul Downton, Phillip DeFreitas, Nick Cook, Paul Jarvis, Graham Dilley.

run in two innings in the second Test at Lord's has been told to watch his conduct after he was seen on television to be clearly dissatisfied with his low dismissal in the second innings.

A statement from the selectors said: "Broad has been given a strong reminder to remember television close-ups and a final warning. Expressing disappointment as he conveyed to the public on television last week is unacceptable."

Broad was reprimanded in Lahore last year for refusing to leave the crease after being given out and he was fined for knocking the stumps over in January's bicentenary Test in Sydney.

led a recovery with a hard hit 67 and then Williams took over to finish unbeaten on 63. Essex were 27 without loss at the close.

Last year's county champions Nottinghamshire, who have lost six of their 10 matches this season, had another wretched day with the bat at Trent Bridge but were then rescued by their bowlers.

Resistance
After being sent in by Northamptonshire, they collapsed to be all out for 143, with only opener Mick Newell showing any real resistance before he was last man out for 44. Duncan Wild

was the most successful bowler for Northants with four for 18.

But then paceman Kevin Cooper and Franklyn Stephenson struck back to dismiss Northants for only 105. Bad light stopped play before Notts had made any runs in their second innings.

Cooper finished with four for 25 and Stephenson had three for 39.

Opener Peter Bowler's third century of the season held Derbyshire's first innings together against Surrey at the Oval and he was unbeaten on 143 at the close when Derby had reached 289 for six.

Saepa had six blocks for the Soviets, who finished with a 24-6 edge against the Japanese. That more than offset 17 kills by Japan captain Kimeo Sugimoto.

There was no scoring for 20 minutes as both sides tested each other's strength. But once Baetti was successful with his second penalty attempt the Pumas never looked back.

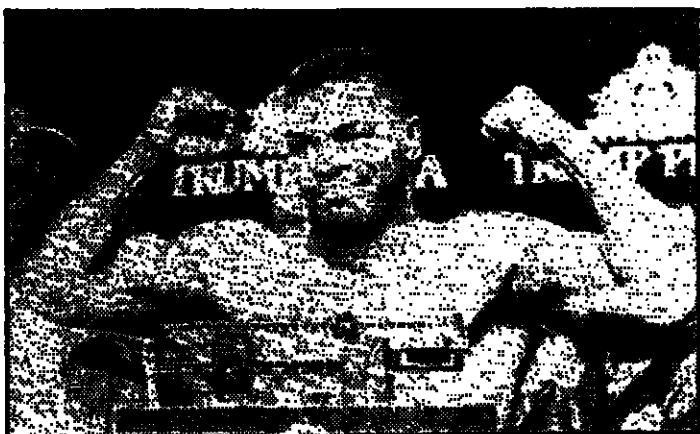
Berot put France level at 3-3 on the half hour but the Argentines were six points ahead at the break.

The forward battle was evenly contested throughout but France gave away more penalties. Ironically, the Pumas lost the first Test through conceding too many penalties.

Both sets of backs were close to scoring a try, the best chance falling to Pumas wing Diego Cuesta Silva who was stopped just short by the faster Serge Blanco after escaping through the middle from the halfway line.

Touch
Patrice Lagisquet's speed was a permanent threat to the home side but he was forced into touch on the occasions he got a chance to run for the flag.

It was the third time in four years that Argentina and France have shared a two-Test series in Buenos Aires.



Tyson poses for the photographers at the weigh-in (Reuters wirephoto).

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run in two innings in the second Test at Lord's has been told to watch his conduct after he was seen on television to be clearly dissatisfied with his low dismissal in the second innings.

A statement from the selectors said: "Broad has been given a strong reminder to remember television close-ups and a final warning. Expressing disappointment as he conveyed to the public on television last week is unacceptable."

Broad was reprimanded in Lahore last year for refusing to leave the crease after being given out and he was fined for knocking the stumps over in January's bicentenary Test in Sydney.

led a recovery with a hard hit 67 and then Williams took over to finish unbeaten on 63. Essex were 27 without loss at the close.

Last year's county champions Nottinghamshire, who have lost six of their 10 matches this season, had another wretched day with the bat at Trent Bridge but were then rescued by their bowlers.

Resistance
After being sent in by Northamptonshire, they collapsed to be all out for 143, with only opener Mick Newell showing any real resistance before he was last man out for 44. Duncan Wild

was the most successful bowler for Northants with four for 18.

But then paceman Kevin Cooper and Franklyn Stephenson struck back to dismiss Northants for only 105. Bad light stopped play before Notts had made any runs in their second innings.

Cooper finished with four for 25 and Stephenson had three for 39.

Opener Peter Bowler's third century of the season held Derbyshire's first innings together against Surrey at the Oval and he was unbeaten on 143 at the close when Derby had reached 289 for six.

Saepa had six blocks for the Soviets, who finished with a 24-6 edge against the Japanese. That more than offset 17 kills by Japan captain Kimeo Sugimoto.

There was no scoring for 20 minutes as both sides tested each other's strength. But once Baetti was successful with his second penalty attempt the Pumas never looked back.

Berot put France level at 3-3 on the half hour but the Argentines were six points ahead at the break.

The forward battle was evenly contested throughout but France gave away more penalties. Ironically, the Pumas lost the first Test through conceding too many penalties.

Both sets of backs were close to scoring a try, the best chance falling to Pumas wing Diego Cuesta Silva who was stopped just short by the faster Serge Blanco after escaping through the middle from the halfway line.

Touch
Patrice Lagisquet's speed was a permanent threat to the home side but he was forced into touch on the occasions he got a chance to run for the flag.

It was the third time in four years that Argentina and France have shared a two-Test series in Buenos Aires.

Nelson tames Suarez to retain title



Spinks looks at the scales during the weigh-in. (Reuters wirephoto)

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., June 26, (Reuters): Azumah Nelson of Ghana stopped American Lupe Suarez in the ninth round yesterday to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-feather weight title with some help from a left to the head after the bell ended the eighth round.

Referee Tony Perez of the US ended the fight after Nelson, 29, rocked Suarez with a left, right, left combination to the head.

"He felt bad and his eyes were back," Perez said of Suarez, after stopping the fight at 27 seconds of the ninth round.

Nelson, who won the title last February, appeared to have some trouble with the right-hand lead of the left-handed Suarez, who scored consistently with that punch.

Nelson staggered Suarez several times in earlier rounds of the scheduled 12-round fight, but was not able to follow up against the elusive Suarez, 27.

Opponent
In the eighth round, Nelson hit Suarez with a solid left-right combination to the head and was trying to finish his opponent when the bell sounded.

Nelson then threw a powerful left hook which rocked Suarez, whose trainer, Angelo Dundee, said was a "sucker punch. He never got over it."

Nelson said the late punch was not intentional.

"I started my hand and could not stop it. The punch and the bell came together," Nelson said. He got me pretty good," Suarez said. "It was a late punch. I heard the bell and turned around and felt the hit. I guess he didn't have enough before the bell."

At the beginning of the ninth Suarez appeared to be sluggish, perhaps suffering from the effects of that late punch. Nelson, sensing the kill, waded in immediately and dispatched his opponent.

Nelson said: "As soon as I got warmed up I knew he was going to go."

"The way he fights, I knew it wasn't going to last," said Nelson, referring to Suarez advancing against his opponent for most of the fight.

— Tale of the tape —

Tyson	Spinks
5-11 1/2 inches (181.6 cm)	Height 6-2 1/2 inches (189.2 cm)
218 1/4 pounds (98.9 kg)	Weight 212 1/4 pounds (96.2 kg)
71 inches (180.3 cm)	Reach 76 inches (193 cm)
43 inches (109.2 cm)	Chest (normal) 40 inches (101.6 cm)
45 inches (114.3 cm)	Chest (expanded) 42 inches (106.6 cm)
16 inches (40.6 cm)	Biceps 14 inches (35.5 cm)
14 inches (35.5 cm)	Forearm 13 inches (33.0 cm)
34 inches (86.6 cm)	Waist 33 inches (83.8 cm)
27 inches (68.5 cm)	Thigh 23 inches (58.4 cm)
19 3/4 inches (50.1 cm)	Neck 16 inches (40.6 cm)
18 inches (45.7 cm)	Calf 16 inches (40.6 cm)
8 inches (20.3 cm)	Wrist 7 1/2 inches (19.0 cm)
13 inches (33.0 cm)	Fist 13 inches (33.0 cm)
11 inches (27.9 cm)	Ankle 11 inches (27.9 cm)

Hat trick for Toyota!



Mohammed bin Sulayem and co-driver Ronan Morgan (left) celebrating Toyota Celica Turbo's victory in Jordan.

With the season's third impressive victory, in the Jordan International Rally, Toyota is right ahead in the race for clinching the Middle East Rally Championship title for the third successive year.

It's a hat trick for Toyota and it has set the pace for the year ahead, strengthening our abiding belief that commitment to quality has its own rewards.

Jordan International Rally '88 Winners

The Team	Position	Time
Mohammed bin Sulayem/Ronan Morgan	1st	4 hrs., 2 mins., 12 secs.

TOYOTA
TEAM MIDDLE EAST

Committed to quality, always
TOYOTA

ROYAL JORDANIAN

Marlboro

BP Visco

PIRELLI

DENSO

• Abdullah Abdulghani & Bros., P.O. Box 1321, Doha, Qatar.
• Al-Futtaim Motors — Toyota, P.O. Box 11052, Dubai, U.A.E.
• E.K. Kanoo, P.O. Box 119, Bahrain

• Ismail Bilbelsi & Co., P.O. Box 213, Amman, Jordan.
• Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer & Sons Est., P.O. Box 485, Kuwait.
• Suhail & Saud Bahwan, P.O. Box 6168, Ruwi, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

W. German team

BONN, June 26, (Reuters): West Germany may not qualify for the 1990 World Cup finals because the managerial team could well be preoccupied with finding new talent, the head of the national soccer organisation was quoted today as saying.

England manager

LONDON, June 26, (Reuters): England soccer manager Bobby Robson, analysing his team's dismal performance in the European Championship finals, said he would not adopt the sweeper system even though he admired the way it was used by new champions the Netherlands.

LPGA tourney

WILMINGTON, Del., June 26, (Reuters): American Patty Sheehan fired a 689 for a 10-under-par 203 total and a two-stroke lead over compatriot Dottie Mochrie after the third round of the \$500,000 LPGA Championship yesterday.

Title fight

TOKYO, June 26, (AP): South Korean champion Chang Jung-Koo and Japanese challenger Hideyuki Ohnishi both said today they were in top condition, but neither predicted victory in their World Boxing Council light flyweight title match tomorrow.

Michel banned

MUNICH, West Germany, June 26, (AP): The disciplinary commission of UEFA, Europe's governing soccer body, today banned Real Madrid's Michel for nine European Cup games for insulting a referee, effectively suspending the star midfielder from next season's Champions Cup.

Winter Games

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, June 26, (AP): Residents of Lausanne, home of the Olympic movement, voted today against bidding to host the 1994 Olympic Winter Games.

Pole position

BROOKLYN, Michigan, June 26, (UPI): Favourite Bill Elliott earned the pole position yesterday for the Miller 400 Nascar race at the Michigan International Speedway.

McGuigan wins

LUTON, England, June 26, (Reuters): Former world featherweight boxing champion Barry McGuigan continued his successful comeback with an impressive win over Brazil's Tomas da Cruz yesterday.

Year's best

ROSTOCK, East Germany, June 26, (Reuters): Heike Drechsler set a world best time this year in the 200 metres at the East German Athletics Championships today, snatching the national title in a blistering 21.84 seconds.

Camacho triumphs

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, June 26, (AP): Hector Camacho, a former double champion, got up from a first-round knockdown last night and remained unbeaten with a 10-round unanimous decision over Reyes Cruz at the Tropicana.

Mizuno Open

HAKUI, Japan, June 26, (AP): Yoshiaki Nizeki sank a 40-foot (12-metre) birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff today to beat Seichi Kanai and win the Mizuno Open golf tournament, the first championship in his 11-year pro career.

Henning ahead

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma, June 26, (AP): Harold Henning, the third-leading money winner on the Senior Professional Golfers' Association Tour, shot a 6-under-par 66 yesterday to take a two-stroke lead after two rounds of the \$250,000 Southwestern Bell Senior Pages Classic.

European golf

SANTANDER, Spain, June 26, (AP): Florence Descamps of Belgium won the four-day, 71-hole European Golf Championship for women yesterday.

Car race

NIAGARA FALLS, New York, June 26, (AP): Walter Rohrl of West Germany drove his Audi around a twisting race course on downtown Niagara Falls streets yesterday at an average speed of 70.054 mph to capture the pole position for today's featured Trans-Am sports car race.

Swimming meet

PALMA OF MAJORCA, Spain, June 26, (AP): Swimmers from the United States and Japan yesterday qualified for the finals in the solo and duet events at a two-day international indoor synchronized swimming meet.

WIMBLEDON ATMOSPHERE WILL RESEMBLE MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

Navratilova and Graf on showdown course

LONDON, June 26, (Reuters): The sedate courts of Wimbledon will take on the atmosphere of Madison Square Garden on heavyweight title fight night this week with the prospect of two long-awaited showdowns.

On Wednesday, holder Pat Cash could meet twice former champion Boris Becker in the quarterfinals of the men's singles. Then 72 hours later Martina Navratilova should bid to become the greatest Wimbledon champion of them all against Steffi Graf.

Navratilova, 31, who will be seeking her 45th successive match victory at Wimbledon against Soviet number two Larisa Savchenko tomorrow, has reigned from 1978-79 and 1982-87. Her collection of eight titles is shared only by Helen Wills Moody.

Graf, 19, holder of the Australian and French Opens and seeking to join Maureen Connolly and Margaret Court by completing the Grand Slam of all four major titles, is scheduled to meet Navratilova in Saturday's final.

"Steffi says she hasn't thought about me, and I sure as hell

haven't been thinking about her... but everyone is doing their damndest to remind us," said Navratilova, who was also due to face Graf in the final of the French Open until she walked into Natalia Zvereva's two-fisted backhand.

The 18-year-old from Minsk is again lying in wait in the quarterfinals, but for this year at least, Navratilova may still carry the heavier punch on grass courts.

Serious
Graf, who has dropped just 26 games in her last 10 matches, plays 16-year-old American Mary-Joe Fernandez tomorrow but her only serious workout should be against Gabriela Sabatini in the last eight.

The Argentine is a handsome player in every respect, though her off-court image is more prosaic than her tennis.

Invited to tell the world something interesting about his protegee, Sabatini's coach thought long and hard before announcing triumphantly: "Not many people know she has a lovely singing voice." That may be as important an attribute as having neat handwriting against Graf's groundstroke artillery.

Before leaving the women, it should be noted that many of Wimbledon's more reactionary club members, delighted to see back of McEnroe, will be equally thrilled to see a similar view of Barbara Potter.

The American's habit of stripping off her sweaty shirts embarrasses the ballboys, according to an official. "Not so," said one 14-year-old, who has spent his last three holidays on a Spanish beach. "I'm just waiting for Gaby (Sabatini) to do it too."

Such will be the ferocity of their centre court contest, that Becker and Cash may be changing shirts as often as they change ends.

Sabatini's sweat-stained towels fetch £10 on the ballboys' black market, rumour has it that one of Cash's discarded shirts will go on offer at £50.

When the 102nd championships resume tomorrow, 1985 and 1986 champion Becker meets unseeded American Paul Annacoe on number one court while Cash is on court 14 where he plays Russian qualifier Andrei Olkhovsky.

World number one Ivan Lendl is seeded to meet the winner of

the Cash-Becker shootout in the semifinals, but first Australian Mark Woodforde and then probably Henri Leconte bar his way.

Down in the bottom half of the draw where Jimmy Connors is still snarling and snapping at everything which strays within range, most of the talk is being conducted in Swedish as Mats Wilander and Stefan Edberg plot a straightforward path to glory.

But the simple part is over for both men.
Edberg should dispose off 153rd world ranked Australian Simon Youl tomorrow but then meets Connors, while Wilander has fallen under the threatening shadow of Slobodan Zivojinovic.

Possible

Like Graf, Wilander arrived at Wimbledon with the French and Australian titles in his possession and a possible Grand Slam in the distant horizon.

The 1.93-metre 101-kg Yugoslav almost floored Wilander in the third round in Paris when he beat him 5-2 in the final set. The Swede has not forgotten the experience.



Navratilova: seeks 45th straight win

Michels banishes memory of Cup defeat

MUNICH, West Germany, June 26, (Reuters): Soccer mastermind Rinus Michels crowned his career as Dutch manager with European Championship triumph yesterday and banished the memory of World Cup final defeat in the same Olympic stadium 14 years ago.

The 60-year-old coach was hoisted aloft after the 2-0 victory over the Soviet Union by the players he had brought from nowhere to the forefront of Europe in his latest tenure.

It was a fitting end for Michels, who pioneered the concept of "total football" and piloted Johan Cruyff and his gifted team to the final of the 1974 Cup only to fall to West Germany in the final in the Munich stadium.

Consigned

But Michels, whose nomadic career next takes him to West German First Division Bayer Leverkusen, has consigned that match firmly to the past.

Asked for comparison with the 1974 experience, he retorted: "Which match? I know nothing about it anymore. It's over. We beat West Germany in the semifinals in Hamburg and today we got the Cup. Now we needn't talk about '74 anymore. It's past."

Michels took charge of the national side for the second time in 1984 but a heart attack forced him to quit for 1-1/2 years and he could not resume until after the 1986 World Cup.



Gullit sends the ball flying off his head to score his team's first goal in yesterday's match. (Reuters wirephoto)

"You see a satisfied man before you. For a man in this profession there's nothing finer than to leave with the title of European Champion," he told journalists.

In a week he goes to Leverkusen to take up a new challenge in a career which has taken him to a wide array of clubs — Ajax Amsterdam, whom he led to their first European Cup final victory, Barcelona, the Los Angeles Aztecs and Cologne.

The Dutch team boasted the three best players of the cham-

pionship in a journalists' poll, with Marco van Basten winning from Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard.

Michels stressed the most important thing was to build a strong team and also paid tribute to the AC Milan trio.

He praised Van Basten for his decisive goals, said Gullit had played an outstanding role off the pitch binding the team together as captain and Rijkaard had been one of the best players in the tournament in his key central defensive role.

He also acknowledged the part played by driving midfielder Jan Wouters and said he had been indispensable to the team.

"Without him we wouldn't be here," he said, adding that nobody in the side had played badly, except in the opening 1-0 defeat by the Russians in the first round.

Michels said his team had played well for the first half hour in the initial match against the Soviet Union but had been hit by the counter-attacks of their opponents after the interval.

"We began this game (the final) more cautiously than usual. In the final you can't use up all your strength in the first few minutes. But in the first half hour the Russians were better. They had more of the game," he said.

"The task was to play patiently and wait. And it worked. At a time when the Russians were stronger, we scored with a counter-attack."

Decisive

"You can't win any final without luck. In this final in decisive moments we were the lucky team."

Soviet team chief Valery Lobanovsky paid tribute to the Dutch and congratulated their "excellent victory."

"It was a real final. This game was not just technically, tactically and in physical fitness of a high level. It was a strategic game," he said.

President's Cup

SEOUL, June 26, (Reuters): Semifinal results of the President's Cup soccer tournament today:

South Korea 'A' 0 Czechoslovak League XI 0 after extra time.

Czechoslovak XI won 4-3 on penalties.

Soviet Union Olympic Select 1 Wuanyanwu Nationale (Nigeria) 0 (half time 1-0)

Scorer: Sergei Puchkov (25th minute)

Faldo eagles last hole to win French Open

CHANTILLY, France, June 26, (Reuters): Nick Faldo, beaten in a playoff by Curtis Strange in the US Open six days earlier, bounced back to win the French Open by holing a 30-foot putt for a last hole eagle today.

Faldo, who defends the British Open title in two weeks at Royal Lytham, carded a 68 for a six under par 274 and a two strokes advantage over Britain's Denis Durnan (74) and Australian Wayne Riley (70).

List

His £47,236 (\$81,482) prize lifted him to the top of the European prize money list with £111,374 (\$192,120).

It was a case of fifth time lucky for Faldo, who preceded his US Open second place by finishing runner-up in the Barcelona and Spanish Opens and the British Masters.

It was Faldo's first success since last year's Open victory at Muirfield, Scotland, and a switch of putters was the key.

"I decided to try out one given to me by a friend in Los Angeles in the last two rounds in France and it gave me back my feel. If anything that eagle putt today was tougher than the one I just missed on the 72nd green at Brookline."

Durnan, a former club professional from Manchester seeking his first European Tour victory, had held the lead after each of the first three rounds. He was just one stroke clear of Riley at the turn after the Australian went out in a three-birdie 34.

Riley birdied the 10th and 11th but Durnan refused to be dislodged, picking up birdie threes of his own at the 10th and 12th, and when the Australian bunkered his tee shot to bogey the short 16th Durnan was two ahead of both him and Faldo with two to play.

But Durnan hooked a two iron into bushes beside the 17th green, took two backs to get on and ran up a double bogey six.



NAIROBI, Kenya, June 26, (AP): Olympic champions Pakistan, treating spectators to top class trickwork, whipped Kenya 5-0 today to win a special pre-Olympic field-hockey exhibition match at the city park stadium.

Originally, Pakistan and Soviet Union were scheduled to size each other up today in a three-nation second playoff at the same site, but the Soviets left for home yesterday due to the early arrival of their Moscow-bound flight.

The departure forced officials to cancel the playoff, replacing it with the exhibition match between Kenya and Pakistan.

The fast-moving unbeaten Pakistanis scored in the 1st and 2nd minutes with field goals off the sticks of outside left Tariq Sheikh and centre-forward Zahid Sharif.

In the 44th minute, Pakistan got the third goal through right halfback Qazi Mohib after a short corner rebound. Another short corner converted in the 64th minute by Tariq and a field goal in the 65th minute by Tariq again put the score at 5-0.

After the match, Pakistan coach Muddassar Asghar said he was pleased with his squad's performance. He said Pakistan will participate in Test matches against Zimbabwe's national team between June 30 and July 6.

"These and six other matches in India and at home are aimed at shaping up my team before the Olympics," he said.

Joyner-Kersey impressive in first long jump of year

SAN DIEGO, June 26, (Reuters): American Jackie Joyner-Kersey made her first long jump of the year at an invitational athletics meet yesterday, soaring an impressive 7.39 metres that looked good but was short of the 7.52 world record set earlier this year by Galina Chistyakova of the Soviet Union.

Joyner-Kersey, who had not jumped in 1988, took only three jumps, leaving the outdoor meet early to attend a wedding of Gail Deavers, with whom she has swapped American records in the 100 metre hurdles this year.

"In practice we have been working on the run, getting the knees up to the chest and the extension," said Joyner-Kersey, a heptathlete who has confined herself to the track this year.

"I have to concentrate on the jump rather than the record," she said after fouling on her last two jumps.

American Mary Decker Slaney captured the 2,000 metres, finishing in 5:36.65 after an early pace that had her headed for the world record of 5:28.69.

Recovered

"I would have liked to have done better, but I have to remember that this is only my third meet in two years," said Slaney, who seems recovered from an Achilles' tendon injury and maternity leave.

American Roger Kingdom won the 110 metre hurdles with a blistering 13.17 into the wind, beating compatriot Greg Foster's 13.85.

In other men's events, Roddie Haley won the 400 metres in 45.28 over Fellow American Antonio McKay, who turned in a 45.29.

Joaoim Cruz of Brazil held off American George Kersch and countryman Jose Barbosa to win the 800 metres in 2:17.76. Kersch was second in 2:18.44 and Barbosa faded to third one second behind Kersch.

Romona Pagel set an American record in the women's shot put with a throw of 20.18 metres. She was short of the world record but said she was pleased to break the 20 metre barrier.

Nelson extends Atlanta lead

ATLANTA, June 26, (Reuters): Larry Nelson, the reigning American PGA champion, extended his lead in the Atlanta Classic to four strokes yesterday as he shot a six-under-par 66 in the third round.

Nelson played near perfect golf on the 7,008-yard, par-72 course at the Atlanta Country Club, but he bogeyed the 18th hole to fall one stroke shy of the US PGA tour record for strokes under par for 54 holes.

Nelson's 21-under-par total of 195 was one less than Gay Brewer's 22-under total for the 1967 Pensacola Open.

Paul Azinger, runnerup in last year's British Open, was closest to Nelson at 199, followed by Bobby Wadkins at 201, Larry Rinker at 202 and David Rummels, Scott Hock and Chip Beck at 203.

Bin Sulayem finishes second in Gunaydin Rally

ISTANBUL: Local duo Emre Yerlici and Can Okan in an Audi Quattro Coupe won the 1988 Marlboro Gunaydin Rally yesterday, breaking an eight-year dominance by visiting crews. More than four minutes behind in second place came double Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem (UAE) and Roman Morgan (Ireland) in a Ford Sierra Cosworth.

Apart from scoring a personal best result in the European Championship Bin Sulayem, aged 27, from Dubai, also established the highest result for an Arab driver in the European series by beating his own record of third overall with the Marlboro Middle East rally team in the Asturias Rally, Spain in 1987.

Best

"I am very pleased, we did our best and the Audi was just impossible to beat," he said.

The rally started on Friday in dry, hot conditions with sixty-four cars being flagged away from the Ayasofya Square start by the mayor of Istanbul. First-seeded driver Bin Sulayem was the first to encounter problems when his red and white Ford stopped dead in the opening special stage.

Only prompt action by

navigator Morgan in by-passing the electrical relay to the fuel pump saved a serious time loss. However the Marlboro team lost 2m.10s on stage time to the leader and another one minute in road penalties.

On the successive forest stages run over twisty loose surfaces the four wheel drive cars dominated with their traction advantage. While Frenchman Christian Gachan was last in starting order he brought his tiny AWD Citroen Visa Mile Pistie into an early lead on S.S.1. The Citroen, the only group B vehicle in the event continued to prove effective throughout the 12 stage leg.

However, the man who dominated the day was local driver Emre Yerlici in his Audi Quattro Coupe. Bin Sulayem pushed his two wheel drive Ford to its limits to regain his lost time from the opening stage and never failed to finish outside the top three, but the Audi proved supreme.

"It is such a waste of power, my wheels keep spinning," explained the 27-year-old Arab champion.

There was drama too for Yerlici, who hit a tree on the final stage of the first leg causing extensive damage to the driver's side of the car. Amazingly he lost



Bin Sulayem: gets the highest result for an Arab driver in the European series

little time on the stage and prompt mechanical repairs saw no road penalties awarded.

At the finish of the first leg only 26 crews made it back to parc ferme. Yerlici was first overall with a time of 2:01.49. Citroen

driver Gachan was second on 2:05.56 and the Lancia Delta of Greek driver Tsobanopoulos third with 2:06.41. Bin Sulayem was fourth with 2:07.00.

The second leg comprised 14 special stages run mainly at

night. With only a one minute gap between the cars heavy dust proved a major problem for the Marlboro rally team in their plans for a counter attack on the less twisty and faster stages. This was clearly evident after the opening stage of the leg when the Audi with no dust problems took another 1m.21s off the Ford.

"We had to be very forceful with the officials to have a two minute gap introduced," explained Morgan.

Free of dust and with less traction problems, the Arab champion soon proved his worth and quickly caught the Lancia and Citroen to take second place. However despite winning successive special stages and dominating the second leg the Audi proved impossible to catch.

In all only 29 cars completed the 925 km rally from the original 64 starters.

Results

1. Yerlici/Okar — Turkey — Audi Quattro Coupe, 3.45.05; 2. Bin Sulayem/Morgan — UAE — Ford Cosworth, 3.49.40; 3. Gachanis/Panov — Gr — Toyota Corolla, 3.59.04; 4. Tsobanopoulos/Nakis — Gr — Lancia Delta, 4.00.19; 5. Gachan/Barreca — Fr — Citroen Visa M.P., 4.00.34.